

# The **SONG SPARROW**

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Bird Protection  
Quebec

Protection  
des oiseaux  
du Québec



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Song Sparrow © Richard Gregson

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# President's Word

by Jane Cormack  
BPQ President

This year we are excited to have four new directors joining our board. You can read more about them further on in this newsletter. We look forward to working with them on new and existing projects.

At BPQ, we are unique among the birding clubs in Quebec in that we are able to sponsor research grants to further our knowledge of birds and protect bird habitat. We are also able to acquire land and create sanctuaries for birds.

In this issue we share success stories from two organizations that have received our grants, the MBO for their MAPS program and the Granby Zoo for their Chimney Swift program.

We are able to do this due to the generous donations of past members who believed strongly in the work of BPQ. We are deeply grateful to them and do not take this responsibility lightly.

Of course, we are also grateful for all the small donations, including your membership fees. These are what keep us going.

On the BPQ board, we are all volunteers and do the bulk of our work through committees working with other directors and members of our organization.

We have a lot of fun doing this work and are also proud of our achievements.

Yet, like all organizations, we face challenges and we must constantly look for new ways to have our voice heard and stay relevant.

For this purpose, we have formed a new strategic planning committee that will be meeting in the coming weeks to examine our current role and map out where we want to be in the next five years, how we can be most relevant in fulfilling our mission in the education, conservation, and observation of Quebec birds and their habitats.

We are also looking for help among our members. If you would like to help us through volunteering on one of our committees, please feel free to contact us.

Our board has an executive committee made up of me, as president, Sheldon Harvey, vice president of admin and treasurer, Connie Morgenstern, vice president of education and outreach, and Helen Meredith, secretary.



Black-throated Green Warbler  
© Chuck Kling 2019

Our board members are Nicholas Acheson, Émile Brisson Curadeau, Chris Cloutier, Claude Cloutier, Simon Duval, Kyle Elliott, Mélanie Guigueno, Jeff Harrison, Darlene Harvey, Kristen Lalla, Don-Jean Léandri-Breton, Ana Morales, Bonnie Soutar, Antoine Turcotte-van de Rydt, and Anthony Zerafa.

# MBO's MAPS Banding Activities at Montée Biggar Bird Sanctuary

by Sheldon Harvey and Simon Duval

In early 2019, the McGill Bird Observatory (MBO), in conjunction with the Migration Research Foundation, applied for, and received, a grant from Bird Protection Quebec (BPQ) to start a Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) project on BPQ's recently acquired Montée Biggar Bird Sanctuary in Godmanchester, Quebec, southwest of Montreal. "MAPS" is a continent-wide network of hundreds of constant-effort mist netting stations. Analyses of the resulting banding data provide critical information relating to the ecology, conservation, and management of North American landbird populations, and the factors responsible for changes in their populations. The grant covers the project for five years.

The BPQ property on Montée Biggar, acquired in August 2018, covers 87 acres along the north-east side of Montée Biggar. It is approximately 1,700 metres long, by 210 metres wide.



Montée Biggar is one of the best known and most productive birding spots in southwestern Quebec, with hundreds of birding enthusiasts visiting the site each year. Since the beginning of 2019, 134 bird species have been found at this site. eBird reports for the last 10 years show that no fewer than 178 species have been recorded on the property.

For the MAPS project, 12 mist net stations were set up on the property on seven designated banding days between June 8 and August 2. On each of these days, MBO staff

and volunteers arrived at the site before dawn to raise the nets. With this many stations, speed and coordination were required to extract the birds from the nets and transport them to the makeshift banding station, where they were banded and data collected and recorded, before releasing them back into the wild. It's amazing to observe the birds up-close and very impressive to see the effort and dedication of the participants. As well as banding and cataloguing, the banders remove ticks from many of the birds captured. Those ticks were sent for examination.

## Results of the Montée Biggar MAPS Sessions

June 8	<b>72 birds of 21 species</b> <b>Highlights:</b> Wood Thrush, Black-and-White Warbler, Eastern Towhee
June 17	<b>42 birds of 16 species; 11 recaptured birds</b> <b>Highlights:</b> 8 Gray Catbird, 7 Trail's Flycatchers (Alder/Willow) the first Brewster's Warbler
June 27	<b>53 birds of 20 species; 13 recaptured birds</b> <b>Highlights:</b> Black-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Phoebe, Black-capped Chickadee, Yellow Warblers and two very young American Woodcock seen, but not banded
July 4	<b>65 birds of 25 species; 17 recaptured birds</b> <b>Highlights:</b> Field Sparrow, Magnolia Warbler, the first juvenile Black-billed Cuckoo, a moulting male Golden-winged Warbler and the bird of the day, maybe of the summer, a juvenile Lawrence's Warbler!
July 15	<b>72 birds of 24 species; 12 recaptured birds</b> <b>Highlights:</b> Barn Swallows, two Brewster's Warblers and the first juvenile Nashville Warbler
July 22	<b>71 birds of 21 species; 14 recaptured birds</b> <b>Highlights:</b> Juvenile Wood Thrush. Many pairs of this species at risk nest at Montée Biggar. 2 Northern Waterthrush
August 2	<b>80 birds of 23 species; 5 recaptured birds</b> <b>Highlights:</b> Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Brewster's Warbler (recapture), Nashville Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Northern Flicker, Veery, and Gray Catbird



Lawrence's Warbler

These are the "Top 10" species banded in the first year, with the number of individuals in brackets:

- Common Yellowthroat (53)
- Yellow Warbler (43)
- Trail's Flycatcher (alder/willow) (36)
- Gray Catbird (36)
- Song Sparrow (35)
- Black-capped Chickadee (34)
- Chestnut-sided Warbler (22)
- Veery (19)
- Swamp Sparrow (16)
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak (15)
- American Goldfinch (15)



Brewster's Warbler

As when beginning any project, we didn't know what to expect. We were pleasantly surprised by the abundance and diversity of species on the 1.2 km stretch that we are studying. We banded 455 birds of 42 species and recaptured 72 individuals including many species that make this a special place: Golden-winged Warbler, Brewster's Warbler, Lawrence's Warbler, Black-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Towhee, and Field Sparrow.

BPQ's Montée Biggar Bird Sanctuary is truly a special place. BPQ is pleased and proud to have been able to acquire and protect this vital area of bird habitat, made possible by the dues and donations of BPQ members and supporters. Bird Protection Quebec encourages birders to visit, but we do ask that you protect and respect the habitat, and the birds that live and breed there, by staying on the road to do your observations. Please do not venture off-road onto the land. Not only is it better for the birds but you will protect yourself from the infestation of ticks present on the property as well as a number of dangerous plants such as poison ivy, wild parsnip and other poisonous or thorny plants and shrubs.

Montée Biggar is a gravel road, accessible by car, with several safe areas to park alongside the road. It is important to note, however, that the road is not serviced in the winter and is therefore closed to vehicles from November to March each year.



Black-billed Cuckoo

## Bird Views

### A summary of interesting bird sightings in Montréal and around the province of Québec

#### April - May 2019

by Pierre Bannon

**Pink-footed Goose:** singles at Saint-Matthias-sur-Richelieu 12 April (Daniel Jauvin, Pierre Bergeron), and at Victoriaville 14 April-5 May (Johanne Charette, *m.ob.*) **Barnacle Goose** singles at Carignan 1 April (Réal Boulet et al.), Farnham 2-11 April (Monique Michiels et al.), Iles de Contrecoeur 10 April (Denis Tétreault), lac Boivin (Granby) 11 April (Bertrand Duhamel), Coteau-du-Lac 28 April (Hélène Tétreault), Drummondville 10-11 May (Claude Roy) and Sept-Îles 10 May (Bruno Duchesne, Claire Couture). **Barnacle Goose X Canada Goose:** this rare hybrid was reported at Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu 29 March (Jean Côté, Jocelyn Dubé, *ph.*). **Mute Swan:** one at Upton 30 April (Nelson Roy). **Trumpeter Swan:** besides Abitibi where the species is now regular, 2 birds were back at Saint-Fulgence 25 April+ for the third consecutive year (J. Fortin et al.) and singles stopped at Bécancour 1-5 May (Hélène Crête, *m.ob.*) and at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade 11-12 May (Louis Messely, Jean-François Bédard). **Tundra Swan:** one at Île aux Allumettes 20-21 April (Miriam Baril). **Garganey:** a male at Saint-Gédéon (Lac Saint-Jean) 25-28 May (Jacques Ibarzabal et al.)

**COMMON WOODPIGEON:** one seen and photographed at La Romaine (Lower North Shore) 5-13 May by Denis Desjardins and

## Parlons d'oiseaux

### Un bilan des observations intéressantes à Montréal et à travers la province de Québec

#### Avril - Mai 2019

par Pierre Bannon

**Oie à bec court :** des oiseaux à Saint-Matthias-sur-Richelieu 12 avril (Daniel Jauvin, Pierre Bergeron), et à Victoriaville 14 avril-5 mai (Johanne Charette, *pl.ob.*) **Bernache nonnette :** des oiseaux à Carignan 1 avril (Réal Boulet et al.), Farnham 2-11 avril (Monique Michiels et al.), Iles de Contrecoeur 10 avril (Denis Tétreault), lac Boivin (Granby) 11 avril (Bertrand Duhamel), Coteau-du-Lac 28 avril (Hélène Tétreault), Drummondville 10-11 mai (Claude Roy) et Sept-Îles 10 mai (Bruno Duchesne, Claire Couture). **Bernache nonnette X Bernache du Canada :** ce rare hybride a été signalé à Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu 29 mars (Jean Côté, Jocelyn Dubé, *ph.*). **Cygne tuberculé :** un à Upton 30 avril (Nelson Roy). **Cygne trompette :** outre en Abitibi où l'espèce est régulière, 2 oiseaux étaient de retour à Saint-Fulgence 25 avril+ pour la 3<sup>ième</sup> année consécutive (J. Fortin et al.); des oiseaux se sont aussi arrêtés à Bécancour 1-5 mai (Hélène Crête, *pl.ob.*) et à Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade 11-12 mai (Louis Messely, Jean-François Bédard). **Cygne siffleur :** un à l'Île aux Allumettes 20-21 avril (Miriam Baril). **Sarcelle d'été :** un mâle à Saint-Gédéon (Lac Saint-Jean) 25-28 mai (Jacques Ibarzabal et al.)

**PIGEON RAMIER :** un oiseau vu et photographié à La Romaine (Basse Côte Nord) 5-13 mai par Denis Desjardins et identifié sur

identified from photographs by his son, Adam Desjardins. This record seems to be a first not only for North America but also for the New World. This abundant species in Europe appears to slowly colonize Iceland in recent years. **White-winged Dove**: one at Saint-Hyacinthe 24-26 May (Sylvie Boulet). **Chimney Swift**: one at Pincourt 13 April provided a record early date for the province (M. & S. Mutzl).

**BLACK-NECKED STILT**: a first indiv reported in the province at Baie-du-Febvre 17-19 May (Yves Dugré, Jules Brunelle et al., *ph.*). **American Avocet**: one at Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly 28 April (Jean-Paul Doyon, *ph.*). **Piping Plover**: rare away from the Magdalen Is., a bird was found at Gallix (North Shore) 21 May (Bruno Duchesne). **Whimbrel**: normally rare in spring, 2 dozen indiv were reported in 8 different localities for the period 20-26 May (*m.ob.*). **Ruff**: a male at Yamaska 2-13 May (Paul Messier, André Lanouette). **Stilt Sandpiper**: rare in spring; singles were at Pointe-au-Père (Rimouski) 20 May (Lucille Saint-Laurent), Baie-du-Febvre 22 May (Sheila MacLean et al.), and Bécancour 25 May (Thierry Grandmont et al.). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: one at Baie-du-Febvre 26 May (Émile Brisson-Curadeau et al.). **Wilson's Phalarope**: reported in 10 different localities in May.

**Long-tailed Jaeger**: always rare in s. Québec, singles were spotted at Sainte-Pétronille 25 May (Gérard Cyr) and at Sainte-Anne-de-Sorel 30 May (Jean Lemoyne). **Ivory Gull**: an ad was seen and photographed by a very lucky observer 19 April at Baie Saint-Ludger (Emmanuel Hains). **Little Gull**: only 6 birds reported in May.

**American White Pelican**: one at Île-de-la-Visitation (Montréal) 5 May (S. Betournay, *fide* Joël Coutu). **Little Blue Heron**: one at Grosse-Île (Magdalen Is.) 27-29 May (Jean-Claude Richard). **Tricolored Heron**: one seen in flight at Les Bergeronnes (North Shore) 25 May (Vincent Giroux et al.). **Glossy Ibis**: 2 birds at Baie-du-Febvre 17 May (Serge Morneau, Yves Dugré). **Black Vulture**:

des photos par son fils, Adam Desjardins. Cette présence semble être la première non seulement en Amérique du Nord mais dans le Nouveau Monde. Cet oiseau abondant en Europe semble coloniser lentement l'Islande depuis quelques années. **Tourterelle à ailes blanches** : une à Saint-Hyacinthe 24-26 mai (Sylvie Boulet). **Martinet ramoneur** : un à Pincourt 13 avril a fourni une date record d'arrivée pour la province (M. & S. Mutzl).

**ÉCHASSE D'AMÉRIQUE** : un indiv signalé à Baie-du-Febvre 17-19 mai, une première présence pour la province (Yves Dugré, Jules Brunelle et al., *ph.*). **Avocette d'Amérique** : une à Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly 28 avril (Jean-Paul Doyon, *ph.*). **Pluvier siffleur** : rare hors des îles de la Madeleine., un oiseau a été trouvé à Gallix (Côte Nord) 21 mai (Bruno Duchesne). **Courlis corlieu** : rare au printemps, 2 2 douzaines d'indiv ont été signalés dans 8 localités différentes entre le 20 et le 26 mai (*m.ob.*). **Combattant varié** : un mâle à Yamaska 2-13 mai (Paul Messier, André Lanouette). **Bécasseau à échasses** : rare au printemps, des oiseaux furent trouvés à Pointe-au-Père (Rimouski) 20 mai (Lucille Saint-Laurent), Baie-du-Febvre 22 mai (Sheila MacLean et al.), et Bécancour 25 mai (Thierry Grandmont et al.). **Bécassin à long bec** : un à Baie-du-Febvre 26 mai (Émile Brisson-Curadeau et al.). **Phalarope de Wilson** : signalé dans 10 localités différentes en mai.

**Labbe à longue queue** : toujours rare dans le sud du Québec, des oiseaux ont été aperçus à Sainte-Pétronille 25 mai (Gérard Cyr) et à Sainte-Anne-de-Sorel 30 mai (Jean Lemoyne). **Mouette blanche** : un ad vu et photographié par un observateur très chanceux 19 avril à Baie Saint-Ludger (Emmanuel Hains). **Mouette pygmée** : seulement 6 oiseaux signalés en mai

**Pélican d'Amérique** : un à l'Île-de-la-Visitation (Montréal) 5 mai (S. Betournay, *fide* Joël Coutu). **Aigrette bleue** : une à Grosse-Île (Iles de la Madeleine.) 27-29 mai (Jean-Claude Richard). **Aigrette tricolore** : une aperçue en vol à Les Bergeronnes (Côte Nord) 25 mai (Vincent Giroux et al.). **Ibis falcinelle** : 2 oiseaux à Baie-du-

one at Cowansville 3 April (Bertrand Hamel) and 2 at Brigham 22 April (Colette Ferri et al.).

**Burrowing Owl:** one seen and photographed at Lamotte (Abitibi) 11 May, a fourth record for the province and the first since 1977 (Johanne Gagné). **Great Gray Owl:** although this species was absent last winter, one bird appeared at Châteauguay 20–30 March (A. Lajeunesse, m.ob.). **Red-headed Woodpecker** up to 2 birds at Woburn 19–25 May (M. Jetté, A. Carrier), one at Sainte-Luce (Lower St. Lawrence) 29 May (Roger Côté, L. Lefebvre). **Red-bellied Woodpecker:** rare in eastern Québec, singles were at Rimouski 24 May (Luce Pelletier) and at Grande-Rivière 27 May (Anne Saint-Jean). **Say's Phoebe:** a bird was briefly seen at Boucherville 7 May (Daniel Daigneault et al.). **Red-eyed Vireo:** one at Sherbrooke 24–25 April provided a provincial record early date (D. Saint-Laurent). **Fish Crow:** 2 seen and recorded with the help of a cell phone at Sherbrooke 21 April (Christophe Turcotte-van de Rydt et al). Seen again 22 April (Olivier Barden). First fully documented record in the province.

**Purple Martin:** one at Tadoussac 27 May provided the second record only for the North Shore (Thomas Gianoli). **Tree Swallow:** 7,000 migrating southwest at Tadoussac 27 May possibly represented a record number for the North Shore (Ian Davies et al.). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** one at Saint-Donat-de-Montcalm 13 April provided a new record early arrival date (Pierre Martin).

**Townsend's Solitaire:** one at Brigham (Estrie) 29 April (Claire Caron, Colette Ferri).

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** a *Parkesia* Warbler was reported at the Montréal Botanical Gardens 14 April, but it took 2 days before it was formally identified as a Louisiana Warbler from photos taken by Ismael Chavez. Dozens of happy birders then saw the bird daily until 30 April; single males were also singing on territory at Glen Sutton 6 May (JP. Santerre), and at Bromont 15 May (JP. Santerre). **Lawrence's Warbler (Hybrid):** a well-described male at

Febvre 17 mai (Serge Morneau, Yves Dugré). **Urubu noir :** un à Cowansville 3 avril (Bertrand Hamel) et 2 à Brigham 22 avril (Colette Ferri et al.).

**chevêche des terrier :** une vue et photographiée à Lamotte (Abitibi) 11 mai, une 4<sup>ième</sup> présence pour la province et la première depuis 1977 (Johanne Gagné). **Chouette lapone :** malgré l'absence de l'espèce l'hiver dernier, un oiseau est apparu à Châteauguay 20–30 mars (A. Lajeunesse, pl.ob.). **Pic à tête rouge :** jusqu'à 2 oiseaux à Woburn 19–25 mai (M. Jetté, A. Carrier), et un à Sainte-Luce (Bas-Saint-Laurent) 29 mai (Roger Côté, L. Lefebvre). **Pic à ventre roux :** rare dans l'est du Québec, des oiseaux ont été signalés à Rimouski 24 mai (Luce Pelletier) et à Grande-Rivière 27 mai (Anne Saint-Jean). Moucherolle à ventre roux : un oiseau aperçu brièvement à Boucherville 7 mai (Daniel Daigneault et al.). **Viréo aux yeux rouges :** un à Sherbrooke 24–25 avril a fourni une date record d'arrivée pour la province (D. Saint-Laurent). **Corneille de rivage :** 2 vues et documentées à l'aide d'un enregistrement sonore à Sherbrooke 21 avril (Christophe Turcotte-van de Rydt et al). Revues le 22 avril (Olivier Barden). Première présence documentée pour la province.

**Hirondelle noire :** une à Tadoussac 27 mai, 2<sup>ième</sup> présence pour la Côte Nord (Thomas Gianoli). **Hirondelle bicoloré :** 7 000 se déplaçant vers le S.O à Tadoussac 27 mai, possiblement un nombre record pour la Côte nord (Ian Davies et al.).

**Gobemoucheon gris-bleu :** un à Saint-Donat-de-Montcalm 13 avril, une date d'arrivée record pour la province (Pierre Martin).

**Solitaire de Townsend :** un à Brigham (Estrie) 29 avril (Claire Caron, Colette Ferri).

**Paruline hochequeue :** une paruline du genre *Parkesia* a été signalée au Jardin botanique de Montréal 14 avril, mais ce n'est que 2 jours plus tard qu'elle fut identifiée formellement comme une Paruline hochequeue à l'aide de photos prises par Ismael

Summit Park (Montreal) 18 May (Lyne Picard, L. Falardeau). **Prothonotary Warbler**: a singing male seen by many photographers at Angrignon Park (Montréal) 17 Mai (Jean-Marc Lacoste, Sylvain Messier, Christina McCallum, et al.). **Hooded Warbler**: a male stopped at the McGill Bird Observatory 7–16 May (Simon Duval et al.) and a female at Cap Tourmente 20 May (Gaétan Lord et al.). **Yellow-throated Warbler**: mostly a fall vagrant, 3 birds were exceptionally found in late May: Tadoussac 27 May (Ian Davies, W. Sweet), Sainte-Angèle-de-Laval 30 May (Estelle Nadeau), Rivière-Madeleine 31 May (Georgette Blanchette, ph.). **Prairie Warbler**: one at Stanstead 13 May (Marc Théberge). **Yellow-breasted Chat**: one at Tadoussac 27 May was a first in spring for the North Shore (Laetitia Desbordes).

**Field Sparrow X Clay-colored Sparrow**: this hybrid was photographed 18 May at Godmanchester at the same place where one was reported last year (Frédéric Hareau, Denis Tétreault). **Lark Sparrow**: one at Maskinongé 18 May (Sylvie Brouillette, Gilles Charbonneau). **Grasshopper Sparrow**: one on the dike of Réservoir Choinière in Yamaska NP 8–9 May caused a surprise (Monique Berlinguette, Monique Maheu); another one was photographed at Les Chenaux (La Mauricie) 28 May (Anonymous eBirder); a few birds were also on territory in May in Pontiac County, the only region in Québec where the species is still nesting. (*m. ob.*). **Harris's Sparrow**: one seen at D'Alembert (Abitibi) 18–21 May (Louis Imbeau).

**Summer Tanager**: six birds reported; an imm male at Cap Tourmente 9 May (Daniel Campeau et al. ph.), a female at Saint-Ignace-de-Loyola 9 May (Suzanne Casavant, ph.), an ad male at Saint-Félicien 18–22 May (Jean Tremblay et al., ph.), a female at Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly 19–20 May (Jocelyne Fiset, ph., G. Isabelle), an imm male at Saint-Félicien 25 May (Dominique Lavoie et al., ph.), and a female at Trois-Rivières 30 May (Anonymous eBirder, ph.). **Scarlet Tanager**: one at Montréal 28 April provided a provincial record early date (Alain Lavallée). **Western Tanager**: an ad male at Saint-Honoré (Saguenay) 31

Chavez. Des douzaines d'observateurs ont pu la voir jusqu'au 30 avril; des mâles chantaient aussi sur leur territoire à Glen Sutton 6 mai (JP. Santerre), et à Bromont 15 mai (JP. Santerre). **Paruline de Lawrence (hybride)** : un mâle bien décrit au parc Summit (Montréal) 18 mai (Lyne Picard, L. Falardeau). **Paruline orangée** : un mâle chanteur trouvé le 17 mai par plusieurs photographes au parc Angrignon (Montréal) (Jean-Marc Lacoste, Sylvain Messier, Christina McCallum, et al.). **Paruline à capuchon** : un mâle s'est arrêté à l'observatoire d'oiseaux McGill 7–16 mai (Simon Duval et al.) et une femelle au Cap Tourmente 20 mai (Gaétan Lord et al.). **Paruline à gorge jaune** : habituellement un visiteur d'automne, 3 oiseaux furent exceptionnellement trouvés à la fin de mai : Tadoussac 27 mai (Ian Davies, W. Sweet), Sainte-Angèle-de-Laval 30 mai (Estelle Nadeau), Rivière-Madeleine 31 mai (Georgette Blanchette, ph.). **Paruline des prés** : une à Stanstead 13 mai (Marc Théberge). **Ictérie polyglotte** : une à Tadoussac 27 mai, première présence au printemps sur la Côte Nord (Laetitia Desbordes).

**Bruant des champs X Bruant des plaines** : cet hybride a été photographié 18 mai à Godmanchester au même endroit qu'en 2018 (Frédéric Hareau, Denis Tétreault). **Bruant à joues marron** : un à Maskinongé 18 mai (Sylvie Brouillette, Gilles Charbonneau). **Bruant sauterelle** : un sur la digue du réservoir Choinière au PN de la Yamaska 8–9 mai a causé toute une surprise (Monique Berlinguette, Monique Maheu); un autre a été photographié à Les Chenaux (La Mauricie) 28 mai (eBirder anonyme); Quelques oiseaux étaient sur leur territoire en mai dans le comté de Pontiac, la seule région au Québec où l'espèce niche toujours (pl. ob.). **Bruant à face noire** : un vu à D'Alembert (Abitibi) 18–21 mai (Louis Imbeau).

**Piranga vermillon** : six oiseaux signalés : un mâle imm au Cap Tourmente 9 mai (Daniel Campeau et al. ph.), une femelle à Saint-Ignace-de-Loyola 9 mai (Suzanne Casavant, ph.), un mâle ad à Saint-Félicien 18–22 mai (Jean Tremblay et al., ph.), une femelle à Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly 19–20 mai (Jocelyne Fiset, ph.,

May–3 June (Roxane Imbeault, *m.ob., ph.*). **Blue Grosbeak**: an unequalled total of 7 birds reported, all ad or imm males mostly in the eastern part of the province: Gaspé 30 April–2 May (Nadia English), Lebel-sur-Quévillon (Abitibi) 5 May (Hélène Pelletier), Brigham (Estrie) 8 May (Charles-Alexandre Mercure), Rivière Saint-Jean 7–13 May (Réal Poulin et al.), Sept-Îles 12 May (Christian Briand, Hélène Olivier), Cap-aux-Os 12 May (Lili Rose), and Rimouski-Est 31 May (Rita et Lucille Saint-Laurent). **Painted Bunting**: with 6 different males reported and confirmed by photos, it was the most prolific season up to now in the province: Anglier (Témiscamingue) 24–27 April, a record early date (Jacques L'Heureux, *ph.*), Notre-Dame-des-bois (Estrie) 25 April (Diane Deilgat, *ph.*), Padoue (Gaspésie) 7–10 May (*fide* Monique Lévesque, *ph.*), Saint-Henri-de-Taillon (*Lac Saint-Jean*) 11 May (Michel Bellemare, *ph.*), Kirkland (Montréal) 17 May (Linda Beaudoin, *ph.*), Notre-Dame-des-Neiges Est (Lower St-Laurent) 24 May (Jacinthe Rioux, *ph.*). **Yellow-headed Blackbird**: single birds at Québec City 14–15 April (Huguo Tremblay, *m.ob.*), Salaberry-de-Valleyfield 28 April (Denise Simon), Val d'Or 6 May (Rolande Langlois, *fide* Claudia Siano), and D'Alembert 27 May (Louis Imbeau *et al.*). **Orchard Oriole**: a male at Saint-Armand 23 April provided a record early date for the province (Jean-Guy Papineau); single males were also seen at Saint-Mathieu-de-Beloeil 10 May (J. Doyle), Châteauguay 20 May (Alex Lavoie), Cowansville 21 May (Lise Paquet), Drummondville 25 May (Thierry Grandmont et al.) and at Pike River 31 May+ (Michel Asselin).

Please report your interesting bird observations to Pierre Bannon, Tel: 450-905-1127 after 7:00 p.m. or preferably by E-mail at [pbannon@videotron.ca](mailto:pbannon@videotron.ca)

G. Isabelle), un mâle imm à Saint-Félicien 25 mai (Dominique Lavoie et al., *ph.*), et une femelle à Trois-Rivières 30 mai (eBirder anonyme, *ph.*). **Piranga écarlate** : un à Montréal 28 avril, un date d'arrivée record pour la province (Alain Lavallée). **Piranga à tête rouge** : un mâle ad à Saint-Honoré (Saguenay) 31 mai–3 juin (Roxane Imbeault, *pl.ob., ph.*). **Guiraca bleu** : un total sans précédent de 7 indiv signalés, tous des mâles ad ou imm retrouvés principalement dans l'est de la province : Gaspé 30 avril–2 mai (Nadia English), Lebel-sur-Quévillon (Abitibi) 5 mai (Hélène Pelletier), Brigham (Estrie) 8 mai (Charles-Alexandre Mercure), Rivière Saint-Jean 7–13 mai (Réal Poulin et al.), Sept-Îles 12 mai (Christian Briand, Hélène Olivier), Cap-aux-Os 12 mai (Lili Rose), et Rimouski-Est 31 mai (Rita et Lucille Saint-Laurent). **Passerin nonpareil** : avec 6 mâles, tous confirmés par des photos, il s'agit de la saison la plus prolifique pour cette espèce : Anglier (Témiscamingue) 24–27 avril, une date d'arrivée record (Jacques L'Heureux, *ph.*), Notre-Dame-des-bois (Estrie) 25 avril (Diane Deilgat, *ph.*), Padoue (Gaspésie) 7–10 mai (*fide* Monique Lévesque, *ph.*), Saint-Henri-de-Taillon (*Lac Saint-Jean*) 11 mai (Michel Bellemare, *ph.*), Kirkland (Montréal) 17 mai (Linda Beaudoin, *ph.*), Notre-Dame-des-Neiges Est (Bas-Saint-Laurent) 24 mai (Jacinthe Rioux, *ph.*). **Carouge à tête jaune** : des oiseaux à Québec 14–15 avril (Huguo Tremblay, *pl.ob.*), Salaberry-de-Valleyfield 28 avril (Denise Simon), Val d'Or 6 mai (Rolande Langlois, *fide* Claudia Siano), et D'Alembert 27 mai (Louis Imbeau et al.). **Oriole des vergers** : un mâle à Saint-Armand 23 avril a fourni une date d'arrivée record pour la province (Jean-Guy Papineau); des mâles aussi vus à Saint-Mathieu-de-Beloeil 10 mai (J. Doyle), Châteauguay 20 mai (Alex Lavoie), Cowansville 21 mai (Lise Paquet), Drummondville 25 mai (Thierry Grandmont et al.) et à Pike River 31 mai+ (Michel Asselin).

Veillez communiquer vos observations intéressantes à Pierre Bannon, tél : 450-905-1127 en soirée ou préférablement par courriel à : [pbannon@videotron.ca](mailto:pbannon@videotron.ca)

# Meet the New Board Members

## Émile Brisson Curadeau



I have been interested in ornithology since I was around six years old when I got my first pair of binoculars. Since then, I have been

birdwatching not only in Québec, but all around the world. Following my passion, I decided, in 2016, to pursue graduate studies on the topic of diving seabirds at McGill, supervised by board member Kyle Elliott. I continued being active in the birding community of Québec by volunteering at two banding stations, writing articles for QuébecOiseaux magazine, presenting at various events and guiding bird trips for various organizations.

I am now beginning a PhD looking at the foraging behaviour of King Penguins. It is an honour for me to join the BPQ board, especially because this organization has a strong conservation mission. While I have been involved in the scientific and educational aspect of ornithology, I have never directly participated in any conservation initiative.

## Darlene Harvey



I started birding about 15 years ago and have been going on BPQ field trips ever since. Having found the trips and our knowledgeable leaders one of the best ways to learn about and enjoy the birds, I joined the field trip committee

to take a part in encouraging other new birders. I have also enjoyed helping the marketing committee to man our booth at various public events, cranking numbers for the Montreal Christmas Count, and being part of the team proofreading The Song Sparrow newsletter. I was the editor of the annual report, tchébec, for four years and, in

2018, took over the role of membership secretary. Being involved with many different parts of BPQ, I'm looking forward to taking the next step by joining the board and participating at the decision-making level.

## Don-Jean Léandri-Breton



I started birdwatching when I was 11 years old in eastern Montreal with the clear objective of getting a grasp of bird diversity by seeing as many species as possible. This voracious passion

brought me to travel across most of Quebec and around the world. The hobby became a way of life as I spent several years working as a field technician on a variety of projects: cavity-nesting species (Abitibi), avian boreal communities (North Lac-St-Jean), migrating raptors (Manicouagan and

Québec city area) and Arctic–nesting shorebirds and geese (Nunavut). I got involved with RQO as well as Tadoussac’s and Rimouski’s Bird Observatories where I expanded my interests in the field of ornithology to conservation and bird banding. I did my master’s thesis in Rimouski (UQAR, supervised by Dr Joël Bêty) on transatlantic migration strategies of the Common Ringed Plover and habitat–driven predation vulnerability in Arctic shorebirds (fieldwork on Bylot Island, Nunavut). Since my first field season up north in 2013, I could not imagine spending summer anywhere else than above the Arctic Circle.

I am now doing a PhD at McGill, under Dr. Kyle Elliott’s supervision, which will bring me to Svalbard (Arctic Norway) to study seasonal interactions between non–breeding behaviours and breeding success in a long–term monitored Kittiwake colony. I wish to pursue a career in ornithology research and continue to promote bird conservation as much as I can.

## Antoine Turcotte-van de Rydt



I am a first–year master’s student in Biology at McGill University, under the supervision of Dr. Mélanie Guigueno. I am originally from Sherbrooke where I did my undergrad in

Biology at Bishop’s University (class of 2017). I am very interested in birds, and I have been an active birdwatcher since I was 13 years old.

My passion for birds is tied to my interest in science and research. I have participated in several citizen projects such as eBird. Notably, I invested many hours every summer in the Second Quebec Breeding Bird Atlas, from (2010 to 2014). In Sherbrooke, I was active in the local birding club, *Société de loisir ornithologique de l’Estrie* (SLOE). I have gained a significant amount of field experience with birds too. After doing a workshop for young birders at the Long Point Bird Observatory (LBBO) in 2012, I

went back for several stays there through which I learned how to band birds. I participated in all LPBO’s bird monitoring projects.

My master’s project is focused on brood parasitism by brown–headed cowbirds, who lay their eggs in the nests of other birds. I am seeking to find links in the brain and physiology of birds and their behaviours associated with parasitism, such as how stress levels influence a host’s species reaction to being parasitized.

## New Members

We would like to extend a big welcome to our new members: Alyssa DeRubeis, Sharon Cheema, Ian Hatchet, André Dionne, Marie–Claude Gignac, Linda and Eric Lenczner, Shirley and Lorne McNaughton, Lucille Pica, Lyne Picard and family, Elizabeth Robinson, Bruce Brown, Murray Savage, Élise Brunet, Vicky Scheid, Antoine Turcotte–van de Rydt, Émile Brisson–Curadeau, Marie–Chantal Gauthier, Bruce Rattray, Lucie Germain, and Don–Jean Léandri–Breton.

We’re happy to have you and hope to meet you soon! Be sure to check out our upcoming monthly meetings and weekly field trips; we have some interesting lectures and outings planned.

## Time to Declutter?



If you're a longtime bird-watcher, you've no doubt accumulated a fair collection of field guides and other bird-related

books over the years.

Sadly, Don-Jean Léandri-Breton, one of our new directors, lost his home in a fire this summer. Along with everything else, he lost all of his rather large bird guide collection, as well as tens of thousands of photos from around the world.

If you happen to have duplicate field guides or an excessive number of books, perhaps you would consider helping Don-Jean rebuild his collection. If so, please contact Don-Jean at [dj.leandri.breton@gmail.com](mailto:dj.leandri.breton@gmail.com)

## Chimney Swifts



This year, we awarded a research grant to the Granby Zoo for their Chimney Swift project. They are investigating breeding locations of Chimney Swifts and studying natural habitat use. They are thrilled with the results of this investigation so far.

By following birds equipped with nanotags, they found a tree used as a nesting site. Two Chimney Swifts, one marked and one unmarked, were observed making frequent trips to the cavity, suggesting they were feeding young.

Only four nests in hollow trees have been confirmed in Québec within the last 55 years- and mostly because the trees were cut down. This is indeed an exciting finding.

A Chimney Swift flying over Austin Texas, Jim McCulloch licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic licence. <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/deed.en>

## Grants

BPQ is pleased to announce that Dr. Mélanie Guigueno is the new chair of our research grants program.

If you would like to find out more about the program, apply for a grant, or make a donation, visit the following links <https://pqspb.org/bpqpoq/research-grants/>

<https://pqspb.org/bpqpoq/product/donation/>

# Volunteer Spotlight

## Mabel McIntosh



Mabel McIntosh at the BPQ 100th anniversary dinner after receiving an award for her volunteer service at BPQ, with Andrew Coughlan.

© Connie Morgenstern 2017

This month, Mabel McIntosh was honoured with an award from QuébecOiseaux for her dedicated volunteer contribution in developing birdwatching as a pastime and for protecting birds.

At RQO's AGM on Saturday, September 14, awards were given to four recipients in four categories. Mabel won in the category of Conservation of birds and their habitats.

She could not be there to accept the award, so Sheldon Harvey, our treasurer and vice president of administration, stepped in to accept the award and deliver the speech she prepared with Bob Barnhurst.

To all members,

I'm very sorry to be unable to attend the AGM in person. This is due to an illness that limits my mobility, at present.

It is a great honour to be the recipient of the RQO's award for volunteer service. Birds have been my lifelong passion and conducting counts, attending and leading field trips, being a director of BPQ and writing the monthly newsletter for many years, amongst other avian pursuits, has provided me with much pleasure.

I got to know many members of the RQO through various field trips, some of whom were just beginning their birding life and, in some cases, their ornithological research. For many years I was a rarity chaser, both in Quebec, Canada, the US and the world. I have had to give that up due to my advanced age, but I still love to read about the rare birds that turn up every year in Quebec.

This September, Bob Barnhurst and I began our fortieth fall hawk watch season on the west island of Montreal. This follows our 39<sup>th</sup> spring watch at our site near Valleyfield. I have lost count of the number of hours and days Bob and I have spent conducting the counts – suffice it to say that we have spent 40 years doing this.

Some years ago, I was awarded an honorary membership by RQO which I also value highly. I look forward to reading each new issue of Québec Oiseaux, for which I am provided a free copy. The magazine is one of the very best available in the world, the articles and photographs first class.

Thank you again, Mabel McIntosh

## Monday Night Lectures

### Kensington Presbyterian Church 6225 Godfrey Ave., NDG

All Monday night lectures take place at 7:30 p.m. at Knox Crescent, Kensington & First Presbyterian Church, 6225 Godfrey Ave, NDG, and are free of charge



Wisdom – the famous Laysan Albatross – with her new chick at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge in February 2019., when Wisdom was at least 68.

## Forever Young? The mystery of how elderly birds continue flying, diving and thriving, when they should be retiring

### A Presentation by Dr Kyle Elliot Monday, October 7 at 7:30 p.m.

It might not be possible to teach an old dog new tricks, but this doesn't seem to be the case for birds. In contrast to mammals, where aging is all too obvious, wild birds maintain their health and intelligence into old age. Kyle Elliott will reduce a bird's life down to a one-hour lecture that takes us on a trip through the lifespans of various birds, from the short-lived Zebra Finch to a 68-year-old albatross to a 91-year-old cockatoo. He will describe some of the latest research into how birds can work hard yet live long, grow their telomeres without getting cancer and fly millions of kilometres through stressful environments without getting wrinkles.

The longevity of birds makes them particularly susceptible to environmental variation, as they cannot evolve quickly in response to climate change, and the lecture will include several other examples of how the lifespan of birds has been important to their conservation.

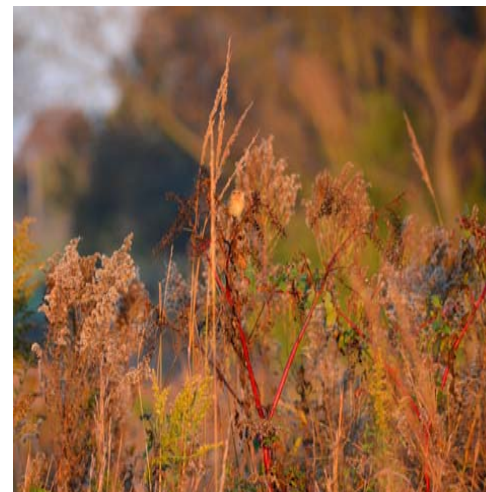


Dr Kyle Elliot studying arctic seabirds and searching for the cure to aging

Kyle Elliott is an assistant professor in the Department of Natural Resource Sciences at McGill University's Macdonald campus, and a BPQ board member. Growing up in British Columbia, his first love was seabirds. Now, he considers himself fortunate to work on remote islands where he can study seabirds that are often older than he is. Having yet to find the cure to aging among them, he continues to grow older himself. Nonetheless, he is quite sure that birding diminishes his rate of aging.

## Tallgrass Prairie Birds in Remnant and Restored Grasslands

**A Presentation by Alyssa DeRubeis  
Monday, November 4 at 7:30 p.m.**



According to North American Breeding Bird Survey data, grassland birds have declined more than any other terrestrial avian assemblage continent-wide. The tallgrass prairie biome has lost 97% of its cover since the pre-settlement era, which partly explains why grassland birds are imperiled. To alleviate habitat loss, some land managers are converting previously

farmed property to tallgrass prairies by applying prescribed burns, controlling exotic-invasive plants, and planting native vegetation. How do breeding and non-breeding grassland songbirds fare on these newly created habitats? This thesis work focused on nesting success of the Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) and occupancy by grassland songbirds during the non-breeding seasons (fall, winter, and spring) at remnant and restored tallgrass prairies in northwest Arkansas, USA.



Great Blue Heron © Chuck Kling 2019



Alyssa DeRubeis with a Dickcissel fledgling.

Alyssa has fond childhood memories of identifying frogs, spotting monarch caterpillars, and, of course, birdwatching in her suburban backyard in Minneapolis, Minnesota. There was never a doubt in her mind that she would become a naturalist of sorts! As a young adult, she travelled throughout the United States for various seasonal bird work and environmental education gigs. Eventually Alyssa's explorations led her to Arkansas, where she very recently completed her master's degree in grassland bird ecology. Currently she is looking for fulfilling work in wildlife ecology.

## Past Field Trips

### 06/04/19 – Beauharnois/ Valleyfield Region

**Guides:** Wayne Grubert and Sheldon Harvey

**Weather:** Foggy

**Participants:** 18; **Species:** 41

**Bird of the Day:** Tufted Titmouse

**Other Birds of Note:** Snow Goose, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Red-breasted Merganser, Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, American Tree Sparrow

### 13/04/19 - Parc historique de la Pointe-du-Moulin Notre-Dame-de-l'Île- Perrot

**Guide:** Chris Cloutier

**Weather:** Sunshine, 10 to 12°C

**Participants:** 26; **Species:** 45

**Bird of the Day:** Red-shouldered Hawk

**Other Birds of Note:** Snow Goose, Wood Duck, Bufflehead, Turkey Vulture, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Merlin, Common Redpoll

### 20/04/19 – Baie-du- Febvre

**Guides:** Jean Demers and Clémence Soulard

**Weather:** Windy and rainy

**Participants:** 6; **Species:** 31

**Birds of the Day:** Bald Eagle; Snow Bunting

**Other Birds of Note:** Northern Shoveler, Redhead, Cooper's Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk

### 27/04/19 – Laval Cemetery and Eastern Laval

**Guides:** Sheldon Harvey and Michel Beaupré

**Weather:** Rainy and windy

**Participants:** 7; **Species:** 26

**Bird of the Day:** Wood Duck

**Other Birds of Note:** Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Tree Swallow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, White-throated Sparrow, Killdeer

### 11/05/19 – World Migratory Bird Day Montée Biggar, Godmanchester

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey

**Weather:** Cool, sunny

**Participants:** 14; **Species:** 56

**Birds of the Day:** Eastern Towhee, Broad-winged Hawk

**Other Birds of Note:** Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey, Wilson's Snipe, Common Raven, Wood Thrush, Nashville Warbler, Pine Warbler, Ovenbird, Scarlet Tanager, Field Sparrow, Bobolink, Purple Finch

### 11/05/19 – World Migratory Bird Day – Driscoll-Naylor Sanctuary, Hudson

**Guides:** Barbara McDuff and Connie Morgenstern

**Weather:** Sunny

**Participants:** 7; **Species:** 31

**Birds of the Day:** Green Heron and Hooded Merganser

**Other Birds of Note:** Mallard, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Least Flycatcher, Great-crested

flycatcher, Tree swallow, Winter wren, Ruby-crowned kinglet, Yellow warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Swamp Sparrow, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Purple Finch

## **14/05/19 – Hudson Evening Trip, Hudson**

**Guide:** Barbara McDuff

**Weather:** Light showers

**Participants:** 9, **Species** 40

**Birds of the Day:** American Bittern and Eastern Bluebird

**Other Birds of Note:** Pied-billed Grebe, Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey, Virginia Rail, Wilson's Snipe, Blue-headed vireo, Marsh wren, Swamp sparrow, Bobolink

## **18/05/19 – George Montgomery Bird Sanctuary, Philipsburg**

**Guide:** Nick Acheson

**Weather:** Cloudy, 10 to 15°C

**Participants:** 20; **Species:** 60

**Bird of the Day:** Broad-winged Hawk

**Other Birds of Note:** Common Loon, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-throated Vireo, Common Raven, Tufted Titmouse, Veery,

Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, Baltimore Oriole, Ovenbird, Tennessee Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Scarlet Tanager

## **20/05/19 – Mount Royal Cemetery, Montreal**

**Guides:** Darlene and Sheldon Harvey

**Weather:** Humid, quick light shower

**Participants:** 17; **Species:** 55

**Bird of the Day:** Indigo Bunting

**Other Birds of Note:** Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Pileated Woodpecker, Blue-headed Vireo, House Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Swainson's Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Pine Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Ovenbird, Scarlet Tanager, White-crowned Sparrow, Rose-breasted Grosbeak

## **25/05/19 – Lac St-François Reserve, Dundee**

**Guides:** Sheldon Harvey and Wayne Grubert

**Weather:** Partly cloudy, 15 to 20°C

**Participants:** 24; **Species:** 81

**Birds of the Day:** Swamp Sparrow and Sandhill Crane

**Other Birds of Note:** Wild Turkey, American Bittern, Great Egret, Green Heron, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Red-tailed Hawk, Virginia Rail, Wilson's Snipe, Black-billed Cuckoo, Purple Martin, Brown Thrasher, Warblers: Tennessee, Yellow, Yellow-rumped, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Black-and-white, American Redstart, Ovenbird, N. Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, Scarlet Tanager

## **01/06/19 – Hydro Cut, Pincourt**

**Guides:** Chris and Claude Cloutier

**Weather:** Cloudy, 15°C

**Participants:** 11; **Species:** 64

**Bird of the Day:** Bobolink

**Other Birds of Note:** Northern Harrier, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Common Raven, Barn Swallow, Winter Wren, Veery, Wood Thrush, House Finch,

Baltimore Oriole, Warblers: Nashville, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackburnian, Blackpoll, Black-throated Green Warbler, Indigo Bunting

## **08/06/19 – île St-Bernard, Châteauguay**

**Guide:** Tom Long

**Weather:** Sunny, 14 to 21°C

**Participants:** 20; **Species:** 61

**Birds of the Day:** Tufted Titmouse and Blackpoll Warbler

**Other Birds of Note:** Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Common Gallinule, Wilson's Snipe, Black Tern, Common Loon, Least Bittern, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Willow Flycatcher, House Wren, Marsh Wren, Eastern Bluebird

## **15/06/19 – William Cosgrove Centennial Park, Dollard des Ormeaux**

**Guides:** Jean Demers and Clémence Soulard

**Weather:** Cloudy, rain later in the morning

**Participants:** 5; **Species:** 25

**Bird of the Day:** Black-crowned Night Heron

**Other Birds of Note:** Double-crested Cormorant, Gray Catbird, Purple Finch, Baltimore Oriole, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler

## **22/06/19 – Annual Summer Solstice Trip – Ormstown, Huntingdon, Godmanchester**

**Guides:** Sheldon Harvey and Wayne Grubert

**Weather:** 15 to 20°C; partly cloudy

**Participants:** 18; **Species:** 79

**Birds of the Day:** Brewster's Warbler, Black-billed Cuckoo, Upland Sandpiper

**Other Birds of Note:** American Bittern, Wilson's Snipe, Willow Flycatcher, Bank Swallow, Eastern Bluebird, Wood Thrush, Brown Thrasher, Warblers: Nashville, Pine, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Scarlet Tanager, Eastern Towhee, Field Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark

## **29/06/19 – BPQ Centenary Sanctuary, Covey Hill**

**Guide:** Frédéric Hareau

**Weather:** Good but windy

**Participants:** 13; **Species:** 55

**Bird of the Day:** Eastern Towhee

**Other Birds of Note:** Ruffed Grouse, Broad-winged Hawk, American Kestrel, Blue-headed Vireo, Winter Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, Brown Thrasher, Ovenbird, Blackburnian Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Pine Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting

## **06/07/19 – Summer Series #1 – Pike River and Bedford**

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey

**Weather:** Overcast and light breeze; rain later

**Participants:** 9; **Species:** 44

**Bird of the Day:** Orchard Oriole

**Other Birds of Note:** Red-tailed Hawk, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Chimney Swift, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow, House Wren, Marsh Wren, Brown Thrasher, Baltimore Oriole

## **13/07/19 – Summer Series #2 – Technoparc, Saint-Laurent**

**Guide:** Joël Coutu

**Weather:** Sunny, warm

**Participants:** 34; Species 48

**Birds of the Day:** Eastern Meadowlark, Green Heron

**Other Birds of Note:** Pied-billed Grebe, Killdeer, Least Bittern, Black-crowned Night Heron, American Kestrel, Baltimore Oriole, Spotted Sandpiper, Purple Martin

## **27/07/19 – Summer Series #3 – RécréoParc, Sainte-Catherine**

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey

**Weather:** Warm, humid

**Participants:** 11; Species: 37

**Bird of the Day:** American White Pelican

**Other Birds of Note:** Common Merganser, Great Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, Osprey, Cooper's Hawk, Merlin, Common Tern, Baltimore Oriole

## **03/08/19 – Summer Series #4 – Cooper Marsh, South Lancaster, Ontario**

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey

**Weather:** Warm, up to 30°

**Participants:** 17; Species: 50

**Bird of the Day:** Osprey

**Other Birds of Note:** American Bittern, Black-crowned Night Heron, Bald Eagle, Purple Martin, House Wren, Veery, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Purple Finch

## **10/08/19 – Summer Series #5 – Parc des Rapides, Montréal**

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey

**Weather:** Mix of sun and cloud, mild temperatures

**Participants:** 30; Species: 34

**Birds of the Day:** Great Egret, Osprey

**Other Birds of Note:** Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Spotted Sandpiper, Common Tern, Chimney Swift, Swamp Sparrow

## **17/08/19 – Summer Series #6 – Various locations, Hudson**

**Guide:** Wayne Grubert

**Weather:** Hot, humid, up to 30°

**Participants:** 16; Species: 39

**Birds of the Day:** Bald Eagle, Barred Owl

**Other Birds of Note:** Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Ovenbird, White-throated Sparrow

## **24/08/17 – Summer Series #7 – Hudson to Pointe-Fortune**

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey

**Weather:** Mild, sunny, light breeze

**Participants:** 9; Species: 54

**Bird of the Day:** Bald Eagle

**Other Birds of Note:** Wild Turkey, Osprey, Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Spotted Sandpiper, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, American Kestrel, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Common Raven, Bank Swallow, Eastern Bluebird

## Trip Advice

**Updates:** We send an update of our upcoming events every week by e-mail. This serves as a reminder and keeps you informed of any changes. It also provides additional information about trip conditions when required. If you are not receiving this e-mail, contact us at [birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com](mailto:birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com). You can unsubscribe at any time.

**Cancellations:** Trips are rarely cancelled, but check the BPQ website, just in case. Contact the trip guide when the weather is extreme.

**Nice to have:** Binoculars, field guide, scope, hat, gloves, good walking shoes, extra socks, sunscreen, extra layers for cold weather, water, and snacks.

**Online calendar:** Consult the website as well.

**Questions:** Contact the trip guide or post a message on the Songsparrow e-mail group.

## De rigueur pour les excursions

**Mise à jour:** Nous envoyons par courriel des mises à jour hebdomadaires sur les événements à venir. Ils servent de rappel pour vous garder informés de tout changement. Ils fournissent des informations supplémentaires sur les particularités reliées aux excursions au besoin. Si vous ne recevez pas ces courriels, contactez-nous à : [birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com](mailto:birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com). Vous pouvez annuler votre participation en tout temps.

**Questions/informations:** Téléphonnez au responsable ou contacter le groupe courriel Songsparrow.

**Annulations:** En cas d'intempérie, vérifier la possibilité d'une annulation avec le responsable.

**Prévoir pour les sorties :** Jumelles, guide, télescope, chapeau, gants, souliers de marche, bas de rechange, crème solaire, vêtements pour temps froid, bouteille d'eau, et collations.

## Upcoming Field Trips

**Saturday, September 21 – samedi 21 septembre**

**Parc national du Mont-Tremblant: "The Search for the Canada Jay (aka Gray Jay) – Au recherche de la Mésangeai du Canada"**

<https://goo.gl/maps/hvhe7WTWcuk>

**Guide:** Jeff Harrison  
Cell 514-730-7296  
[lagopus7@gmail.com](mailto:lagopus7@gmail.com)

**8:00 a.m.** Car pooling from Montreal is recommended. Meet at Diable Sector Park gate parking lot. Allow 90 minutes' driving time from Montreal. Take Autoroute 15 north and continue on Highway 117. Take the turnoff to St. Faustin and continue north past Lac Superior to the park gates. Admission: \$8.50. Those arriving late will be able to catch up with our party as we proceed north on Park Route 1. We should be at the Lac Chat parking lot (about 7 km north of the gates) until about 9:00 a.m. Bring waterproof footwear and a lunch. Our exploration will require some driving and some walking. We will be looking for boreal birds such as Canada Jay, Boreal Chickadee and finches. **All day.**

**8h00** Covoiturage de Montréal est recommandé. Rassemblement au stationnement du secteur Diable du parc. Prévoir 90 minutes de conduite à partir de Montréal. Prendre l'autoroute 15 nord et continuer

sur la route 117. Prendre la fourche pour St-Faustin et continuer vers le nord passé le Lac Superior jusqu'aux portes du parc. Admission 8.50\$. Ceux qui arriveront en retard pourront nous rejoindre le long de la route 1 du parc, vers le nord. Nous devrions être au stationnement du Lac Chat (environ 7 km au nord des portes) jusqu'à 9:00. Apportez des souliers imperméables et un lunch. Notre exploration demandera de la conduite automobile et de la marche. Nous serons à la recherche d'oiseaux de la forêt boréale comme la Mésangeai du Canada, la Mésange à tête brune, et des fringillidés. **Toute la journée.**

## Saturday, September 28 – samedi 28 septembre

### Parc Frédéric-Back, Montréal

<https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/parcfredericback/>

<https://goo.gl/maps/624rz93BSRg26kUc8>

**Guide:** Claude Cloutier [claudecloutier15@gmail.com](mailto:claudecloutier15@gmail.com)

**8:00 a.m.** Meet in the parking lot at the #7 entrance to the park on the east side of Papineau Avenue at the corner of Emile Journault. From the west, take Autoroute 40 East (Metropolitan Blvd). Take Exit 73 for av. Christophe-Colomb. Take av. Christophe-Colomb north to av. Emile-Journault. Turn right on av. Emile-Journault and follow it to boul. Papineau. Cross boul. Papineau into the parking lot for Parc Frédéric-Back.

From the south or the east, take boul. Papineau N. to av. Emile-Journault and turn right into the parking lot at the #7 entrance to the park. **Half day.**

**8h00** Rassemblement dans le stationnement à l'entrée n° 7 du parc, du côté est de l'avenue Papineau, au coin d'Emile Journault. De l'ouest, prendre l'autoroute 40 est (boulevard métropolitain). Prendre la sortie 73 pour Avenue Christophe Colomb en direction de l'Autoroute 19 N/ Avenue Papineau. Continuer sur Christoph Colomb jusqu'à l'avenue Emile-Journault. Tourner à droite sur av. Emile-Journault. Continuer jusqu'au boul. Papineau. Traverser le boul. Papineau et continuer jusqu'au stationnement à l'entrée 7 du parc Frédéric-Back.

Du sud ou de l'est, prendre le boul. Papineau N. jusqu'à av. Emile-Journault. Tourner à droite sur av. Emile-Journault et continuer jusqu'au boul. Papineau. Traverser le boul. Papineau et stationner dans le stationnement à l'entrée 7 du parc Frédéric-Back. **Demi-journée.**

## Saturday, October 5 – samedi 5 octobre

### Le refuge faunique Marguerite- D'Youville, l'île Saint-Bernard

<http://www.ilesaintbernard.com/>

<https://goo.gl/maps/g5spD>

**Guide:** Tom Long 450-692-1590 [cardinalis.1997@gmail.com](mailto:cardinalis.1997@gmail.com)

**8:00 a.m.** Meet at the welcome centre of the Refuge Faunique Marguerite D'Youville on Île St-Bernard, Châteauguay. From Montreal, take Highway 138 and cross the Mercier Bridge. Stay right coming off the bridge and take Highway 138 through Kahnawake into Châteauguay. As you enter Châteauguay, turn right onto Boul. St-Francis. Follow St. Francis all the way to the end where it meets the Châteauguay River at Boulevard Salaberry Nord. Turn right on to Salaberry Nord. Continue past the railway bridge. The next bridge that crosses the road and river is Pont de la Sauvagine. Turn right just after

the bridge. There will be a sign and an entrance ramp for the bridge for Beauharnois and Refuge Faunique Marguerite d'Youville. Cross the bridge and continue to Notre-Dame Nord. At the flashing red light turn right onto Notre-Dame and follow the signs to Refuge Faunique Marguerite D'Youville. Cross the small bridge onto île St-Bernard. The parking area is to the right. Walking trip looking for waterbirds and late migrants. The grass paths are usually wet early in the morning so wear appropriate footwear. \$7.00 admission fee or \$5.00 with your BPQ membership card. **Half day.**

**8 h 00** Rassemblement à l'accueil du refuge faunique Marguerite-D'Youville, île Saint-Bernard, Châteauguay. De Montréal, prenez la route 138 et traversez le pont Mercier. A la sortie du pont, gardez la droite et continuez sur la 138, passé Kahnawake, jusqu'à Châteauguay. A l'entrée de Châteauguay, tourner à droite sur le boul. St-Francis. Continuez sur celui-ci jusqu'à l'intersection avec le boul. Salaberry Nord, qui longe la rivière Châteauguay. Tournez à droite sur Salaberry Nord, passez en dessous du pont de la voie ferrée et continuez jusqu'à un deuxième pont : il s'agit du pont de la Sauvagine. Tourner à droite juste après avoir passé sous ce pont et accéder à une rampe d'accès au pont. Des indications pour le refuge faunique Marguerite-D'Youville y sont visibles. Traversez le pont et continuez jusqu'à la rue Notre-Dame Nord. Au feu rouge clignotant, tourner à droite sur Notre-Dame et suivre les indications pour le refuge. Traverser le petit pont qui mène à l'île Saint-Bernard. Le stationnement est à la droite. Excursion à pied, à la recherche d'oiseaux aquatiques et de migrateurs tardifs. Considérant que les sentiers gazonnés sont généralement humides le matin, il est conseillé de porter des chaussures adéquates. Frais d'entrée de 7,50\$ ou 5,00 avec la carte de membre de POQ. **Demi-journée.**

## **Saturday 12 October - samedi 12 octobre**

### **Parc-nature du Bois-de-L'Île-Bizard**

**Note: The meeting place for this trip is on Mtee de l'Eglise. Remarque: Nous nous rencontrerons sur Mtée de l'Eglise.**

<https://goo.gl/maps/jUN2Laf9Zjy>

**Guide:** Wayne Grubert 450-458-5498  
514-774-0811 (cell phone on the day of the trip only – cellulaire pour le jour de la sortie seulement)

[wgrubert6@gmail.com](mailto:wgrubert6@gmail.com)

**8:00 a.m.** Hwy 40; exit St. Jean Blvd north to Gouin Blvd; left (west) on Gouin to Jacques Bizard Blvd; right (north) on Jacques Bizard Blvd, over bridge to Blvd Chevrement; left (west) on Chevrement to Montée de l'Église; right (north) on de l'Église. After 0.7 km the parking lot is on your right. Parking: \$9.00. **Half day.**

**8h00** De l'autoroute 40, prendre la sortie pour le boul. St-Jean nord et continuer sur celui-ci jusqu'au boul. Gouin. Tourner à gauche (ouest) sur Gouin et continuer jusqu'au boul. Jacques-Bizard. Tourner à droite (nord) sur Jacques-Bizard et traverser le pont. Tourner à gauche (ouest) sur le boul. Chevrement et continuer jusqu'à la Montée de l'Église. Tourner à droite (nord) sur celle-ci et continuer pour 0.7 km. Le parking se trouve sur votre droite. Stationnement : 9,00 \$. **Demi-journée.**

## Saturday 19 October - samedi 19 octobre

### Parc des Rapides, Lasalle and Verdun Waterfronts

<https://goo.gl/maps/ZKadR>

Guide: Diane Demers [ddemers03@hotmail.com](mailto:ddemers03@hotmail.com)

**8:00 a.m.** Meet in the parking lot at Parc des Rapides, corner of LaSalle Blvd and 6th Avenue in LaSalle, just east of Bishop Power Blvd. Looking for waterfowl and migrants. **Half day.**

**8h00** Rassemblement dans le stationnement du parc des Rapides. Celui-ci est situé à l'intersection du boul. LaSalle et de la 6e avenue à ville LaSalle, juste à l'est du boul. Bishop-Power. Espèces recherchées : sauvagine et migrants. **Demi-journée.**

## Saturday October 26 - samedi 26 octobre

### Sainte Catherine Area – Région de Sainte Catherine

Rendezvous <https://goo.gl/maps/OP7jtfaEHT613HaK6>

Guide: Frédéric Hareau

514-805-8491 (cell phone on the day of the trip only – cellulaire pour le jour de la sortie seulement)

[fredhareau1@yahoo.ca](mailto:fredhareau1@yahoo.ca)

**8:00 a.m.** We will meet in the Parking Lot of Parc André J. Côté. From Champlain Bridge (south), Take exit 53 to merge Autoroute 15 S toward QC-132/La Prairie/New York. Continue on Autoroute 15 S for 6 km. Take exit 46 toward La Prairie/Boulevard Salaberry. Turn right onto Boulevard Marie-Victorin. After 2 km, turn right to stay on Boulevard Marie-Victorin and after 400m, turn right for the parking lot of Parc André J. Côté. From Mercier Bridge: take QC-132 E/Autoroute 30/Autoroute 15/La Prairie. Continue onto QC-132 E for 7 km. Turn left onto Rue Brébeuf and after 2 km, Turn right onto Boulevard Marie-Victorin, then, after 2.5 km, turn left for the parking lot of Parc André J. Côté.

During this fall migration period we will be looking for migrating waterfowl along the south shore of the St Lawrence river. We will also look for other migrants including passerines and raptors. We will explore a few parks on the South Shore in Sainte-Catherine as well as the Récréo-Parc. **Half day.**

**8h00** Rendez-vous au stationnement du parc André J. Côté. Du pont Champlain (sud), prendre la sortie 53 pour fusionner l'autoroute 15 S en direction de QC-132 / La Prairie / New York. Continuer sur l'autoroute 15 S pendant 6 km. Prendre la sortie 46 en direction de La Prairie / Boulevard Salaberry. Tourner à droite sur le boulevard Marie-Victorin. Après 2 km, tournez à droite pour rester sur le boulevard Marie-Victorin et après 400 m, tournez à droite pour le stationnement du parc André J. Côté. Du pont Mercier: prenez QC-132 E / Autoroute 30 / Autoroute 15 / La Prairie. Continuez sur QC-132 E sur 7 km. Tourner à gauche sur la rue Brébeuf et après 2 km, tourner à droite dans le boulevard Marie-Victorin, puis, après 2,5 km à gauche dans le stationnement du parc André J. Côté.

En cette période de migration automnale, nous serons à la recherche des oies, canards et grèbes en migration sur la rive Sud du Saint Laurent. Nous chercherons également les autres migrants, notamment les passereaux et rapaces. Nous explorerons quelques parcs à Sainte-Catherine ainsi que le Récré-O-Parc. **Demi-journée.**