

The **SONG SPARROW**

Bird Protection Quebec - Protection des oiseaux du Québec

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Photo courtesy of the MBO

For the Birds since 1917
Pour les oiseaux depuis 1917



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Birding: Solitary Pursuit or Group Diversion?

Zofia Laubitz

Do you prefer to bird alone or with other people? Or is any opportunity to go birding fine with you? I ask that question because I've noticed that many birders seem to have a strong preference for one option over the other. I have some birding friends who rarely go out by themselves, while others almost never bird with other people. Personally, I'm happy to bird either alone or in company. However, I've given some thought to the pros and cons of both situations, in the hopes of understanding my own and other people's attitudes. To organize my thoughts (and give this article an air of spurious scientific precision), I've set them down in tabular form below.

Birding Solo

Pros

1. You are in total control of your birding experience. If you want to spend 30 minutes trying to identify or photograph that elusive passerine in the thicket, you can. And if you get fed up after 30 seconds and decide to move on, you can do that too.
2. The fact that there's no one else to rely on means that you can—indeed must—hone your birding skills.
3. Since there's only one of you, you can be fairly quiet and unobtrusive as you creep up on your "prey."
4. If you miss something good, you'll probably never know it, so you'll remain happy!



Cons

1. There's no one to share the joy with when you get something really good or ace a tricky identification.
2. There's no one to consult when you're really baffled.
3. In the (unlikely) event that you have an accident or get into some other kind of trouble, there may be nobody around to help you.
4. You can't look everywhere at once, so you're more likely to miss something.

Birding with Others

Pros

1. There are many eyes to see birds, many ears to hear them, and many minds to identify them.
2. You can learn from people who know more than you, and get an ego boost from helping those who know less.
3. It's a good opportunity to bond with people who share the same interest as you.
4. You can all rejoice together if you get a good bird, especially a lifer for someone, and best of all a lifer for everyone.



Cons

1. There are many mouths to chatter, many feet to trample the undergrowth, and many bodies to disturb birds and other wildlife.
2. If you're like me, you may feel tempted to get lazy and let someone else deal with the ID challenges.
3. You have to accommodate other people's convenience, whether it suits you or not.
4. If the group is a large one (and sometimes even if it isn't), it's all but certain that some people will see or hear a bird that other people miss, leading to envy and heartburnings.

Speaking for myself, I always take pleasure in birding, whether I'm alone, with a few friends, or in a larger group. Some days, though, I simply prefer one scenario over the other. There can be a real sense of freedom in simply grabbing one's binoculars (and maybe a snack and a thermos) and heading out alone to some birdy area, without having to consult anyone or accommodate anyone else's schedule. Birding, photographing, and simply enjoying nature by oneself can be very calming and induce a feeling of flow. Birding with friends, on the other hand, is a more convivial kind of activity—a chance to enjoy each other's company as well as enjoying the birds. (Interestingly, I do find that, once I've opted for one choice or the other, I can get disgruntled if someone imposes a change on me, for instance if I'm birding alone and run into friends.) Whichever you choose, though, the really important thing is that you're going birding!

What do you think? Do you prefer birding alone or in company? Do you have reasons I didn't mention? Don't hesitate to respond.

Birder's Book Review

by Jane Cormack

Green Birding

by: Dr. Richard Gregson

Stackpole Books, 2013

ISBN-10: 0811726150

Paperback: 134 pages

Green Birding is about a trend followed by a growing number of birdwatchers who choose to “pursue their birding in a different way, using only human power—walking, biking, or paddling—to travel from home to bird and back again.”

Richard Gregson’s slim volume is packed with information. It will appeal to a wide variety of birdwatchers.

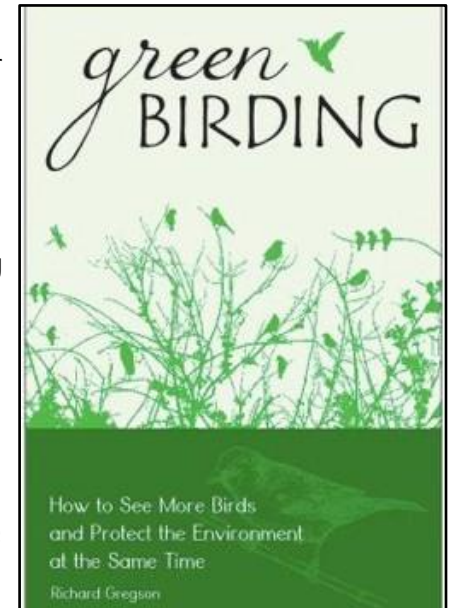
- For those who already do a fair bit of walking or cycling, and birdwatching, and would like to enjoy these activities together, green birding is a natural extension, a way to have more time to do both.
- For those who would like to exercise, walk, cycle, snowshoe, or paddle a bit more, without making exercise the primary focus, seeing a bird, or even imagining that you are, gives you a good reason to take a break and *Green Birding* provides ideas and tips to get you started.
- For the lister looking for a new challenge or a new excuse to make a list, the green birding trend offers endless possibilities. How many birds can be seen in particular area or “patch,” in each season, in each year? How many birds can be seen without getting into a

motorized vehicle, how many by foot, by bike, or canoe? How many birds can be seen by human-powered means alone in a given year? This is known as a Big Green Big Year (BIGBY).

- For those who are interested in citizen science and conservation, green birding offers the chance to make a meaningful contribution.
- For those who prefer to forgo all the effort and let the birds come to them, *Green Birding* provides advice on planting a garden that will “become a magnet for wildlife.”

You may be ready to give up all forms of motorized transportation in order to see birds, but you don’t have to. You can make your own rules for green birding. Make some excursions by foot or other self-powered means, while reserving the right to indulge in an occasional long-distance birding adventure.

Green Birding is organized into nine chapters. Each focuses on a particular aspect of the subject. It begins with a description of what green birding is, then gets into the why. A central



theme is “patchworking.” This is all about finding an area, preferably close to home, that you can visit often and discover “in depth.” Rather than travelling miles and miles to see a wide variety of species, why not get to know the birds that frequent a particular area? Call it your patch and really observe the birds and the habitats it contains. Keep lists and record the number of birds and everything about them. Become the go-to expert on the area. The book stresses that, by reporting your findings, you can really help to build up the data about bird populations and how, or if, they are changing. Another chapter provides useful information about equipment for human-powered observation and record-keeping. Another delves into the “sport of green birding.” This describes the challenge of doing a Big Green Big Year (BIGBY), or competing for the number of birds that you can see in a particular area, all by foot, bike, or paddle, in a single year. The next chapter is about gardening for the birds, how to attract them to your own backyard or balcony. The book provides further useful information on citizen science and conservation. The last chapter describes how green birders, with their extensive knowledge of a particular area, can be “a powerful force for bird conservation, especially at the local level.”

Green Birding is filled with photographs, and includes several quotations. These provide insight into the human side of green birding and the variety of reasons that people are attracted to it. They make you realize that this is a movement that has been growing over several years, quietly, at its own pace, but strengthening.

What is missing from the book is any discussion of the negative impact of green birding. From a conservation point of view, studies have shown that kayakers can be especially disruptive to bird populations, sometimes more so than

motorized boats, because they can get up so close, and approach so silently. Eventually, birds become agitated and populations can be affected. Cyclists and pedestrians may be tempted to stray off the beaten path and onto private property or fragile vegetation. It is important to remember that having made a physical effort to see a bird or habitat does not give you the right to ignore basic rules of ethical birding and photography. If the bird flies away, you are too close.

The book does provide a lot of practical advice. It is divided into short topics, or chunks of information, making it easy to browse through and find the information you are looking for. You can open the book to virtually any page and find something worth reading or an interesting photograph or helpful piece of information.

The author, Richard Gregson, is the President of BPQ. He is a member of the Philipsburg, Grants and Research, Fundraising, and Nominating committees. He recently retired from his position as Principal Pathologist at Charles River Laboratories in the West Island and will be devoting more of his time to doing what he loves: gardening, observing birds, and engaging in research projects about birds. Rumour has it that he will pursue his own (second) BIGBY in 2014. He will be talking about Green Birding at the BPQ November lecture, 6225 Godfrey in NDG, Monday, November 7, at 7:30 p.m.



Bird Views

Parlons d'oiseaux

by/par: Pierre Bannon

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

Un bilan des observations intéressantes à Montréal et à travers la province

June-July 2013

Greater White-fronted Goose: rare in summer, one was at Saint-Bruno-de-Guigues 2-5 June (J. Fréchette). **Mute Swan:** Two at Yamachiche 4 June (J. Gélinas, M. Bourassa). **Trumpeter Swan:** a pair discovered 30 April at Val d'Or was observed with four cygnets 3 July onwards, confirming a second breeding record, for the Abitibi region and for the province (ph., R. Ladurantaye et al.); singles were also seen at Béarn 5 June (M. Gervais, J. Fréchette), and at Fugèreville in Témiscamingue 5-7 June (M. Gervais). **Eurasian Wigeon:** single males at Rimouski 2-10 June (G. Proulx et al.), Cacouna 1-26 June (JC. Pelletier) and Saint-Louis-de-Gonzague 12 July (P. Bannon). **Lesser Scaup:** a female with four chicks at Ville-Marie 18 July furnished a first nesting record for Témiscamingue (J. Fréchette). **Tufted Duck:** a male at Sept-Îles 16-19 June (ph., JF. Laporte). **Common Loon:** a young bird, still flightless, was seen on the seaway near the Beauharnois dam 26 July, a rare breeding record for extreme southwestern Québec (ph., D. Collins). **Leach's Storm-Petrel:** one at Rivière-du-Loup 15 July (T. Beck, G. Milks, S. Milks). **American White Pelican:** singles in Rupert Bay 23 June (MA. Montpetit) and at Terrebonne 12-21 July (JP. Hameury, m. ob.). **Little Blue Heron:** one at Québec City 3 July (A. Tremblay). **Cattle Egret:** one at Saint-Martin (Chaudières-Appalaches) 8-9 June (P. Rodrigue). **Glossy Ibis:** one at Île Bourdon (Varenes) 8 July (F. Saint-Pierre, fide J. Cadieux). **Sandhill Crane:** Two ad and two young were photographed at Calumet, close to Montréal, 30 June, a new breeding site for southwestern Québec (P. Franche et al.).

American Avocet: one at Métis-sur-Mer 4 June, the first in five years for the province (ph., J. Fortin, J. Rousseau, J. Tremblay). **Long-billed Dowitcher:** an ad was nicely photographed at Pointe-de-l'Est 27 July, exceptional for the Magdalen Is. (A. Richard). **Wilson's Phalarope:** once regular, although uncommon along the St. Lawrence valley, this species seems to have almost disappeared as a nesting bird in Québec. The only records this summer were single ad at Cabano 9 June (M. Beaulieu), Hudson 16 June (W. Grubert) and a migrating juvenile at Saint-Basile 21 July (S. Denault). No breeding confirmation since the beginning of the Atlas in 2010. **Roseate Tern:** again this summer, up to two were at Grande-Entrée (Magdalen Is.) 15-31 July (A. Richard, DG. Gaudet, H. Tremblay). **Sandwich Tern:** an ad at Saint-Irénée 4 June (P. Otis, F. Lachance) was seen again at nearby La Malbaie 6 June (S. Blackburn, S. Lemieux). This provides the third record for the province. Identification to the subspecies level remained undetermined in this case but a re-examination of photos taken at Tadoussac in 2008 seems to point out towards the Eurasian subspecies (fide S. Denault).

Eurasian Collared-Dove: singles at Chibougamau 8 June and 3 July (A. Anctil), Saint-Fabien-de-Lotbinière 15 June-20 July (J. Piuze), and at Sainte-Brigide-d'Iberville 26 July+ (H. Méthot). **White-winged Dove:** one at Sept-Îles 9-10 June was probably the same reported in mid-May (B. Duchesne, C. Couture). **Great Gray Owl:** singles at Rimouski 26 June (R. Lesmerises (fide M. Jaffré) and at Mont-Laurier

Rufous Hummingbird: a male at Rivière-Rouge 18–23 July represented an extremely early fall vagrant (ph., A. Tourangeau, fide J. Turgeon).

Red-bellied Woodpecker: breeding was confirmed at Châteauguay for the 8th consecutive year (m. ob.). **Acadian Flycatcher**: a singing bird was present at Notre-Dame-du-Nord (Témiscamingue) 4–27 June for the 3rd consecutive summer (J. Fréchette). **Say's Phoebe**: one at La Malbaie 2 June (P. Otis, F. Lachance, A. Rasmussen). **Carolina Wren**: a nesting pair at Venise-en-Québec 11 June (P. Savoie). **Sedge Wren**: breeding was confirmed at Lac Limoges (Mont-Laurier) 2 June–16 July, locally rare (A. Boisclair).

Canada Warbler: the discovery of about ten individuals in a 0.5-square-kilometre patch of forest 25–26 June at Saint-Chrysostome, south of Montréal, could be of great interest locally for this species of high conservation concern (P. Bannon). **Yellow-breasted Chat**: one at Cap Tourmente 7 June (G. Cyr, J. Bernier). **Clay-colored Sparrow**: one at Havre-Saint-Pierre 2–7 June (J. Piuze) and 2 in the Manicouagan region 6 June (J. Piuze) seem to be the easternmost birds on the North Shore. Four singing birds in abandoned farmlands at Pierrefonds 15 June represented a good concentration for the island of Montréal (J. Coutu, M. Beaupré). **Lark Sparrow**: an ad at Georgeville, Estrie, 1–3 June, possibly a first for this area (A. Cyr, F. Bergeron). **Le Conte's Sparrow**: one at Bridgeville 9 July, rare in Gaspésie (M. Robert). **Northern Cardinal**: breeding was confirmed for the first time this summer in Témiscamingue (J. Fréchette) and in Lac Saint-Jean (J.G. Gagnon et al.). **Painted Bunting**: a female (or imm male) was photographed at Trois-Rivières 29 June (A. Martel, S. Goudreau), a thirteenth record for the province and the second this year. **Dickcissel**: one at Chibougamau 1 June, possibly a first for this area (A. Anctil). **Yellow-headed Blackbird**: 3 birds reported in Gaspésie: an imm male at Bridgeville 1–2 June (D. Jalbert et al.), an ad male at Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé 4–6 June (D. Lebouthilier) and an ad male at Pabos Mills 10 June (M. Garant). **Orchard Oriole**: an ad male at Saint-Armand 26 June (J.G. Papineau).

Please report your interesting bird observations to:
Pierre Bannon, 1517 Leprohon, Montréal, Qc H4E 1P1.
Tel: 514-766-8767 after 7:00 p.m. or by E-mail at
pbannon@videotron.ca

Juin-juillet 2013

Oie rieuse : un individu présent à Saint-Bruno-de-Guigues 2–5 juin, rare en été (J. Fréchette). **Cygne tuberculé** : 2 à Yamachiche 4 juin (J. Gélinas, M. Bourassa). **Cygne trompette** : un couple découvert le 30 avril à Val d'Or a été observé avec 4 jeunes le 3 juillet, ce qui fournit une 2ième nidification pour l'Abitibi et le Québec (ph., R. Ladurantaye et al.); des oiseaux aussi aperçus à Béarn 5 juin (M. Gervais, J. Fréchette), et Fugèreville au Témiscamingue 5–7 juin (M. Gervais). **Canard siffleur** : des mâles à Rimouski 2–10 juin (G. Proulx et al.), Cacouna 1–26 juin (J.C. Pelletier) et Saint-Louis-de-Gonzague 12 juillet (P. Bannon). **Petit Fuligule** : une femelle avec 4 canetons à Ville-Marie 18 juillet, une 1ère nidification pour le Témiscamingue (J. Fréchette). **Fuligule morillon** : un mâle à Sept-Îles 16–19 juin (ph., J.F. Laporte). **Plongeon huard** : un jeune oiseau, inapte à voler, sur la voie maritime près du barrage de Beauharnois 26 juillet, un rare cas de nidification pour l'extrême sud-ouest du Québec (ph., D. Collins). **Océanite cul-blanc** : un à Rivière-du-Loup 15 juillet (T. Beck, G. Milks, S. Milks). **Pélican d'Amérique** : des oiseaux dans la baie de Rupert 23 juin (MA. Montpetit) et à Terrebonne 12–21 juillet (JP. Hameury, pl. ob.). **Aigrette bleue** : une à Québec 3 juillet (A. Tremblay). **Héron garde-boeufs** : un à Saint-Martin (Chaudières-Appalaches) 8–9 juin (P. Rodrigue). **Ibis falcinelle** : un à l'Île Bourdon (Varennes) 8 juillet (F. St-Pierre, fide J. Cadieux). **Grue du Canada** : Deux ad et deux jeunes filmés à Calumet, près de Montréal, 30 juin, un nouveau site de nidification pour le sud-ouest du Québec (P. Franche et al.).

Avocette d'Amérique : une à Métis-sur-Mer 4 juin, la première en cinq ans pour la province (ph., J. Fortin, J. Rousseau, J. Tremblay). **Bécassin à long bec** : un ad à Pointe-de-l'Est 27 juillet, exceptionnel pour les îles de la Madeleine (ph., A. Richard). **Phalarope de Wilson** : autrefois régulière, bien que peu fréquente le long de la vallée du Saint-Laurent, cette espèce semble être presque complètement disparue comme nicheur au Québec. Les seules présences cet été sont des ad à Cabano 9 juin (M. Beaulieu) et à Hudson 16 juin (W. Grubert) et un juvénile en migration à Saint-Basile 21 juillet (S. Denault). Aucun nicheur n'a été confirmé depuis le début de l'Atlas en 2010. **Sterne de Dougall** : à nouveau cet été, jusqu'à 2 oiseaux présents à Grande-Entrée (IDL.M.) 15–31 juillet (A. Richard, DG. Gaudet, H. Tremblay). **Sterne caugek** : un ad à Saint-Irénée 4 juin (P. Otis, F. Lachance), fut revu à La Malbaie 6 juin (S. Blackburn, S. Lemieux). Il s'agit d'une 3ième présence pour la province. L'identification de la sous-espèce dans ce cas n'a pas

été établie, mais un ré-examen des photos prises à Tadoussac en 2008 semble indiquer la sous-espèce d'Eurasie (fide S. Denault).

Tourterelle turque : des oiseaux à Chibougamau 8 juin and 3 juillet (A. Anctil), Saint-Fabien-de-Lotbinière 15 juin-20 juillet (J. Piuze), et à Sainte-Brigide-d'Iberville 26 juillet+ (H. Méthot). **Tourterelle à ailes blanches** : une à Sept-Îles 9-10 juin, probablement le même individu qui était présent à la mi-mai (B. Duchesne, C. Couture). **Chouette lapone** : des oiseaux à Rimouski 26 juin (R. Lesmerises, fide M. Jaffré) et à Mont-Laurier 13-21 juin (C. Mélançon et al.) étaient hors de leur aire. **Colibri roux** : un mâle à Rivière-Rouge 18-23 juillet fournissait une mention automnale très hâtive (ph., A. Tourangeau, fide J. Turgeon)

Pic à ventre roux : nidification confirmée à Châteauguay pour la 8ième année consécutive (m. ob.). **Moucherolle vert** : un mâle chanteur à Notre-Dame-du-Nord (Témiscamingue) 4-27 juin pour un 3ième été consécutif (J. Fréchette). **Moucherolle à ventre roux** : un individu à La Malbaie 2 juin (P. Otis, F. Lachance, A. Rasmussen). **Troglodyte de Caroline** : un couple nicheur à Venise-en-Québec 11 juin (P. Savoie). **Troglodyte à bec court** : nidification confirmée à Lac Limoges (Mont-Laurier) 2 juin-16 juillet, rare localement (A. Boisclair).

Paruline du Canada : la découverte d'une dizaine d'individus sur un territoire forestier d'environ 0,5 km carré 25-26 juin à Saint-Chrysostome, au sud de Montréal, pourrait être d'un grand intérêt local pour cette espèce considérée hautement prioritaire (P. Bannon). **Paruline polyglotte** : une à Cap Tourmente 7 juin (G. Cyr, J. Bernier). **Bruant des plaines** : un à Havre-Saint-Pierre 2-7 juin (J. Piuze) et deux dans le secteur de Manicouagan 6 juin (J. Piuze), les présences les plus à l'est sur la Côte Nord. Quatre mâles chanteurs dans des champs abandonnés à Pierrefonds 15 juin représentent une bonne concentration pour l'île de Montréal (J. Coutu, M. Beaupré). **Bruant à joues marron** : un ad à Georgeville, Estrie, 1-3 juin, possiblement une première dans cette région (A. Cyr, F. Bergeron). **Bruant de Le Conte** : un à Bridgeville 9 juillet, rare en Gaspésie (M. Robert). **Cardinal rouge** : nidification confirmée pour la 1ère fois au Témiscamingue (J. Fréchette) et au Lac Saint-Jean (JG. Gagnon et al.). **Passerin nonpareil** : une femelle (ou un mâle imm) photographiée à Trois-Rivières 29 juin (A. Martel, S. Goudreau), une 13ième présence au Québec et une 2ième cette année. **Dickcissel d'Amérique** : un à Chibougamau 1er juin, possiblement une première dans cette région (A. Anctil). **Carouge à tête jaune** : 3 oiseaux signalés en Gaspésie : un mâle imm à Bridgeville 1-2 juin (D. Jalbert et al.), un mâle ad à Sainte-

Thérèse-de-Gaspé 4-6 juin (D. Lebouthillier) et un autre mâle à Pabos Mills 10 juin (M. Garant). **Oriole des vergers** : un mâle ad à Saint-Armand 26 juin (JG. Papineau).

Veillez communiquer vos observations intéressantes à : Pierre Bannon, 1517 Leprohon, Montréal, Qc H4E 1P1.
Tél : 514-766-8767 en soirée. Courriel : pbannon@videotron.ca



Red-breasted Nuthatch

Project FeederWatch

Everyday Canadians Contributing to Our Understanding of Birds

Backyard birdwatchers across Canada are invited to take part in the 27th season of Project FeederWatch from Saturday, November 9, through Friday, April 4.

With each season, FeederWatch increases in importance as a unique and indispensable monitoring tool for more than 100 bird species that winter in North America. Last year, over 2,500 Canadians and 11,000 Americans counted backyard birds; their observations help scientists better understand the health and behaviour of birds—important indicator species for the well-being of our planet. Each checklist submitted by FeederWatchers helps scientists at Bird Studies Canada (www.birdscanada.org) and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (www.birds.cornell.edu) learn more about where birds are, how they are doing, and how to protect them.

Participating in Project FeederWatch is a great way for families and friends to connect with nature, have fun, and help birds. You do not have to be an expert to participate - we'll send you a poster of common birds, and help is just a phone call or e-mail away.

Participants choose how much time they want to dedicate to the project. They are asked to select their own two-day count period once every two weeks, and then count for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they like) on one or both of those days. Sightings are entered online at www.birdscanada.org/volunteer/pfw, or reported on paper data forms and mailed in at the end of the season. Participating in Project FeederWatch is fun! One participant said, "I have been doing FeederWatch since 1975 and have enjoyed every year. My whole family is now hooked on identifying birds and counting them. Thanks for the fun!"

Data from FeederWatchers have helped scientists learn about changes in the distribution and abundance of feeder birds over time, expansions and contractions in their winter ranges, the spread of disease in bird populations, and the kinds of habitats and foods that attract birds. For more information about Project FeederWatch, please visit their website at www.birdscanada.org/volunteer/pfw, or contact the coordinator at 1-888-448-2473 or pfw@birdscanada.org. Bird Studies Canada is a national non-profit organization dedicated to bird research and conservation.

Project FeederWatch is a joint project of Bird Studies Canada and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

There are four ways to register for Project FeederWatch in Canada:

Note: A \$35. registration fee applies.

- Fill out the online form at www.birdscanada.org/volunteer/pfw
- E-mail pfw@birdscanada.org
- Write to: P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, Ontario N0E 1M0 (enclose a \$35 cheque payable to Bird Studies Canada)
- Call Bird Studies Canada toll-free at 1-888-448-2473.



Christmas Bird Counts

The 78th Annual Montreal Christmas Bird Count -
Saturday, December 21, 2013
by Sheldon Harvey

One of Bird Protection Quebec's (BPQ) most popular annual events, the Montreal Christmas Bird Count (CBC), will take place on Saturday, December 21, 2013. The annual bird counts play a vital role in tracking local and national birding trends and are one of the most important events on the citizen science calendar. We are once again counting on your important participation.

I am a member of the BPQ Christmas Count Committee, along with Barbara Szabo, Jean Demers, and Clémence Soulard. Barbara and I will be responsible for the Montreal Count, with Jean and Clémence looking after Hudson. We were very pleased that 75 people participated in last year's event. We do have space and territory available to add more people if there is an interest. We have a long-standing tradition to uphold and, with everyone's support and cooperation, we aim to carry it on.

The 24-km-wide circle for the Montreal area count is centred at the intersection of Sherbrooke Street West and Westminster Avenue in Montreal West. An overview of the count, a map of the count circle, and the results from past years are all available on our website. Follow the link at the end of this article. Teams of birders cover as much of the territory within the circle as possible. In order to do that, as many participants as possible are needed.

It's a fun day of birding, all for a valuable and important purpose. The key thing to remember on a Christmas Bird Count is that every single bird you see is important, common or rare. Seeing some "good birds" is always an added bonus but the goal of the day is to count each and every bird, regardless of the species.



Horned Lark

If you live anywhere within the count circle and have feeders installed, but are unable to join one of our field teams, you can still assist us without leaving the comfort of your home. Our website explains how to participate as a FeederWatcher.

If you participated last year, you will be receiving an e-mail from us shortly, asking if you wish to participate this year, covering the same territory. If you would like to move to a different target area, we will do our best to accommodate, assigning you to a new sector. If you are new to the Christmas count and are interested in becoming a field participant, please contact us and we will assign you to a sector. We will place you on a team with some experienced Christmas counters. Everyone's involvement is extremely important.

Once again this year, an informal social will be held immediately following the count at the Montreal West Curling Club, 17 Ainslie Road in Montreal West, at approximately 4:00 p.m. All participants are invited to attend for a bite to eat and to submit their findings of the day. The rough results are

tabulated and everyone is encouraged to share their birding experiences of the day.

Complete information on the Montreal Christmas Bird Count, as well as the Hudson Christmas Bird Count being held on Saturday, December 28, is available on the following BPQ webpage http://pqspb.org/bpq2/?page_id=139

We look forward to your participation again this year. If you have any questions, or wish to register for the event, please contact Sheldon Harvey, e-mail: ve2shw@yahoo.com or telephone: 450-462-1459.

Watch the Songsparrow e-mail forum for further information as the event approaches.

73rd Hudson Christmas Bird Count
Saturday, December 28, 2013
by Jean Demers

This year the 73rd Hudson Christmas Bird Count will be held on December 28, 2013. We are looking for volunteers to participate in the event. For those of you who have never done a Christmas Bird Count, you are missing out on a terrific citizen science project which helps to evaluate the numbers of birds who spend the winter with us. This project is conducted throughout North America and in some countries in Central and South America.

You do not need to be an expert birder to participate. We will match new participants with experienced bird count veterans. In Hudson we have 17 field teams covering a lot of different types of habitat.

We cover a circle with a 24-km diameter. The task is simple:

Count all the birds of each species seen throughout the day.

All participants will receive detailed instructions on how to proceed. Each team will be provided with the required documents to record their findings for the day.

If you would prefer to stay in the warmth of your home and still participate in the event, you can do so as a FeederWatcher, counting the birds at your feeders during the day. Contact me with your address and I will confirm if you live within the coverage area of the Hudson count.

If you would like to participate in the Hudson Christmas Bird Count please contact me at: cbchudson2@gmail.com or by phone at: 514-694-8240.

Jean Demers
Hudson Christmas Bird Count Compiler



BPQ Monthly Lectures

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

The Role Wildlife Rehabilitation Plays in the Conservation of Threatened Species

Presentation by Susan Wylie, Executive Director, Le Nichoir

Monday, October 7, at 7:30 p.m.

This presentation will discuss the role wildlife rehabilitation plays in the conservation of threatened species and species of special concern. Every year Le Nichoir receives over 1,500 wild songbirds and aquatic birds that require care. Although many of these birds are of common species, they play an essential role in helping the centre to educate the public and to acquire specialized skills that can be applied to rarer birds such as the Chimney Swift, Barn Swallow, Common Nighthawk and Canada Warbler.



Le Nichoir has become known internationally among the rehabilitation community for the care of Chimney Swifts and has a release rate of over 80%. The centre hopes to participate in post-release studies that would measure their survival rate after going through rehabilitation to confirm the success of the techniques used for their care. Our goal is to release

viable, reproducing individuals back into the wild.

As Executive Director of Le Nichoir, Susan Wylie feels strongly about promoting wild bird conservation through linking science, education and professionalism to rehabilitation. She has been caring for songbirds and aquatic birds at Le Nichoir for ten years, with her passion being the rehabilitation of insectivorous birds, especially the threatened Chimney Swift. Susan graduated from McGill University, majoring in wildlife biology, and is an environmental management technician. She has also sat on the board of directors for IWRC (International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council) since 2008 and is an IWRC instructor.

Green Birding – Better Birding on Your Local Patch with Dr. Richard Gregson

Monday, November 4, at 7:30 p.m.

In our desire to see faraway wild creatures in their natural habitats, we have all expended too much energy and added to greenhouse gas emissions over the years, uncomfortable thought as it is. Increasingly, in a world where climate change is happening before our eyes, many birders now find that this is no longer quite as acceptable as it once was. By spending more time locally and travelling by human power alone, we can minimize our effects on the environment and reduce our



carbon footprints while really coming to know and appreciate the birds and other lives we live with and amongst.

If you are a birder, a lister, a twitcher, a watcher, a naturalist – You would like to know the birds of your local patch in greater depth – You are conscious of the effect chasing good birds can have on the environment – you suspect you drive/ fly too much, too often and too far for birds – You are self-powered and can walk, cycle, paddle, row or ride – Then, ipso facto, you are a Green Birder.

This talk looks at some of the reasons that have caused an upsurge in self-powered birding (or, as birders in England have dubbed it, carbonless twitching) and suggest easy and enjoyable means by which anyone can gently slip into this alternative way to work on your life list. We will look briefly at making your garden into a wildlife magnet and how to find those often overlooked corners in your neighbourhood that birds love but we so often don't see as we rush past in our cars after rarities in the next town or province.

Green Birding involves more than simply listing local birds, it draws you into the interesting fields of citizen science and conservation and turns you into the go-to expert on your local patch. There are birding contests such as green big days and green big years (the famous "Bigby") that you will enjoy and the international "Patchworking Challenge" that will pit your skills against the best. Hundreds of birders are now birding locally, sharing successes, blogging about their achievements and getting amazingly fit in the process. Perhaps you would like to join them?

Richard Gregson is a biologist and the President of Bird Protection Quebec. He maintains a website for people interested in this alternative way to go birding at www.greenbirding.ca and is the author of a copiously

illustrated book on the subject called, what else, *Green Birding* (Stackpole Books – ISBN-10: 0811726150). Richard admits to birding by car on occasion – Christmas Bird Counts for example – but tries to stick to two wheels and two feet more often than not.

**Birding in the Limestone Region
Discover the Birds and More of Southeastern Ontario**
with Joël Coutu

Monday, December 2, at 7:30 p.m.

The area of Southeastern Ontario, between Prince Edward County and The Thousand Islands, is often considered one of the best for birdwatching in eastern North America. It attracts a variety of species, including Short-eared Owl and the rare Prairie Warbler. In this lecture, you will discover the various bird species, their habitats, a little history, and maybe even a few of the amusing adventures that the lecturer has experienced over the years.



Born in Montreal, Joël Coutu moved at the age of four with his family to Kingston, Ontario, where he lived for eight years. It was there that he developed a passionate interest in nature and particularly animal life, turning his parents' garage into something of a zoo with all the creatures he brought home. Spark birds, during this period, were a Barn Owl, discovered in an abandoned garage, and an American Kestrel that he found injured in the woods and was eventually able to set free.

His interest in birds continued when he returned to Montreal and during several trips to the United States and Canada, during which he built his species list and began to observe and study bird behaviour. He was President of a local birding club from 2001 to 2007. In the early 2000s, he hosted a television show about birds, which aired on a local cable station, and later co-hosted a radio show about birdwatching.

He continues to be an active birder, as well as a lecturer and consultant on bird-related topics. He works on a number of birdwatching projects with schools and other institutions and collaborates with Montreal and provincial parks on bird-related projects. He regularly participates in Christmas Bird Counts. In fact, he does everything from organizing birdwatching trips to conducting surveys in Northern Quebec and Labrador. He finds great pleasure in sharing his knowledge and renewing his interest with like-minded groups of birdwatchers.



Dark-eyed Junco

Report on the 10th Annual Summer Series of Birding

by Sheldon Harvey

Our 10th consecutive year of summer field trips wrapped up on August 24. This year we conducted seven trips, visiting Parc des Rapides in LaSalle, Parc de la Frayère in Boucherville, Île-Bizard, the St-Lazare Sand Pits, the Eastern Ontario sewage lagoons, and two first-time visits to Centre de la Nature in Laval and Ruisseau à Charette-Baie Brazeau in Pointe-Fortune, QC. The trips were conducted in pleasant weather with light rain present on just one of the outings.

The combined trips produced a total of 125 species. That surpassed our most productive summer of 123 species in 2011. Our most productive individual trip this summer, species-wise, was the Eastern Ontario sewage lagoon trip on August 24, where we had a total of 78 species, shattering our single highest species count of 66 on a summer outing, which occurred twice before, in the summers of 2010 and 2012.

We averaged 47 species and 11 people per trip for the summer. Three new species were added to our Summer Series master species list, which now stands at 182 over the ten years. The new species this year were Palm Warbler, Canada Warbler and Lincoln's Sparrow, all seen on the Ontario sewage lagoon trip. It was interesting to note that there was one species that was observed in each of the previous nine years of summer trips that did not appear on any of our seven outings this year. That species was the Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

I thank everyone who came out to participate in our Summer Series, contributing to a record-setting season. I look forward to another great summer series in 2014.

A group of people, mostly wearing hats and outdoor gear, are gathered on a dirt path next to a pond in a lush, green forest. Some are looking towards the water, while others are talking or looking at something in their hands. The scene is bright and sunny, with many trees and bushes in the background.

Weekend Field Trips

Most weekends during the year, BPQ organises guided field trips to places where good birds are to be seen.

On the following pages you will find details of the trips coming up in the next few weeks. The trip leaders and more experienced participants will be happy to help new birders enjoy their time with us and to identify and see the birds around you.

It is not necessary to be a BPQ member to come on a field trip – though, of course, we hope that you will decide to join us later and support our important work for the birds.

Further details are always available in the Calendar section of our website and if there are any (very rare) last minute changes they will be posted there too .

Trip Advice – De rigueur pour les excursions

Transportation: Contact the trip leader or the Songsparrow email group if you need or can offer a lift. Cancellations: Trips are rarely cancelled, but in case of extreme weather check with the leader. Clothing: Dress warmly and wear waterproof footwear, even if the day seems mild and dry.

Transport : Téléphoner au responsable ou contacter le groupe Songsparrow pour faire du covoiturage. Annulations : En cas d'intempérie, vérifier la possibilité d'une annulation avec le responsable. Habillement : Vêtements chauds et bottes imperméables sont toujours de rigueur.

Reports of Recent Field Trips

10/08/13 - Summer Series 2013 Trip #5 - St-Lazare Sandpits, St-Lazare, QC

Guide: Sheldon Harvey

Sunny, cool and windy. 8 birders; 41 species

Bird of the Day: Black-bellied Plover

Other Birds of Note: Green Heron, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs (8), Pectoral Sandpiper, Scarlet Tanager, Swamp Sparrow

17/08/13 - Summer Series 2013 Trip #6 - Parc de la Frayère, Boucherville, QC

Guide: Sheldon Harvey

Sunny, mild. 7 birders; 36 species

Bird of the Day: Caspian Tern

Other Birds of Note: Wood Duck, Great Egret, Common Moorhen, Common Tern, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow Warbler

24/08/13 - Summer Series 2013 Trip #7 - Eastern Ontario Sewage Lagoons, Ontario

Guide: Sheldon Harvey

Excellent weather. 6 birders; 78 species

Bird of the Day: American Coot, Red-necked Phalarope
Other Birds of Note: Northern Shoveler, Ruddy Duck, American Bittern, Broad-winged Hawk, Virginia Rail, Solitary Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Nashville Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Palm Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Wilson's Warbler, Canada Warbler, Lincoln's Sparrow

31/08/13 - St-Lazare Sandpits, St-Lazare, QC

Guides: Jean Demers & Clémence Soulard

Warm, 20°C. 13 birders; 47 species

Bird of the Day: Short-billed Dowitcher

Other Birds of Note: Blue-winged Teal, Green-winged Teal,



Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Brown Thrasher, Tennessee Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Bobolink

7/09/13 - Lac St-François Reserve, Dundee, QC & Ste-Martine, QC

Guide: Wayne Grubert

Overcast, 18°C. 11 birders; 56 species

Birds of the Day: Bald Eagle, Sandhill Crane

Other Birds of Note: Wild Turkey, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, Tennessee Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Bobolink

14/09/13 - Pointe de Yamachiche, Yamachiche, QC -

Guide: Frederic Hareau

Cold, heavy rain. 2 birders; 61 species

Birds of the Day: Hudsonian Godwit

Other Birds of Note: Snow Goose, Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Sanderling, White-rumped Sandpiper, Blue-headed Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, American Pipit, Black-and-white Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Lincoln's Sparrow, Rusty Blackbird

Field Trips October to December

Saturday, October 12 – samedi 12 octobre A West Island Potpourri of Autumnal Birding

Guide: Richard Gregson – 514-816-4172 (emergencies only on the day please) – sparroworks@gmail.com

8:00 a.m. Birds at this time of the year are not always as easily observed as they are in spring, so we will try to increase our chances of finding them by covering a bit more territory and range of habitats. We will begin by walking and birding in the Arboretum, for about 90 minutes to two hours, then drive a short distance east to the southern end of the Anse-à-l'Orme nature park where there are some trails by the river to explore. We will continue northwest by car to the bay at the northern end of the park, where we can check for late shorebirds, assorted waterfowl and raptors, especially Osprey. Following this, we will park at the Cap-St-Jacques nature park or, discreetly, at the school across the road (if you don't have a park pass) but instead of entering the park we will cross the road and investigate the extensive fields to the south where there is a mixture of woodland, neglected hedgerows and overgrown abandoned fields—this can be a paradise for raptor fans. The trails in this sector are mostly deer trails so come shod for some rough walking. A spotting scope is highly recommended for the riverside sections of the walk.

The main locations described above are marked on the map at this link – <http://goo.gl/maps/V7XcX>

Fees associated with this trip are \$5.00 entry at the Arboretum for non-members, and either the Anse-à-l'Orme or Cap-St-Jacques parking fee of \$8.00, for those without the annual pass.

08 h 00 Les oiseaux à cette époque de l'année ne sont pas toujours aussi faciles à observer qu'au printemps; nous allons

donc essayer d'augmenter nos chances de les trouver en couvrant un peu plus de territoire et des habitats diversifiés. Nous allons commencer par une marche d'observation des oiseaux à l'Arboretum, puis conduire sur une courte distance vers l'est de l'extrémité sud du parc-nature de l'Anse-à-l'Orme. Nous continuerons ensuite vers le nord-ouest en voiture, avec deux ou trois arrêts afin d'observer les étendues ouvertes et accessibles du parc – depuis le ruisseau jusqu'à la baie située à l'extrémité nord du parc, où nous espérons marcher sur la plage (dépendant du niveau d'eau – apporter des bottes !) à la recherche d'oiseaux de rivage, de divers oiseaux aquatiques et de rapaces, en particulier le balbuzard. Suite à cela, nous allons garer au parc-nature du Cap-Saint-Jacques ou, discrètement, à l'école de l'autre côté de la route. Nous allons traverser la route et visiter les vastes champs au sud où il y a un mélange de bois, haies négligées et des champs abandonnés – cela peut être un paradis pour les amateurs d'oiseaux de proie. Les sentiers de ce secteur sont principalement les sentiers des cerfs alors venez chaussés pour un peu de marche difficile. Rien n'est garanti mais tout est possible. Une lunette de repérage est fortement conseillée pour la section près de la rivière. Les endroits ci-dessus sont indiqués sur la carte suivante : <http://goo.gl/maps/V7XcX>

Des frais de 5\$ par personne sont exigés pour les gens qui ne sont pas membres de l'Arboretum Morgan. Des frais de stationnements de 8\$ sont exigés à l'Anse à l'Orme et au Cap St-Jacques pour ceux qui n'ont pas de passe de saison.

Saturday, October 19 – samedi 19 octobre Parc-nature du Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard

Guide: Felix Hilton – 514-631-3437
hiltonfb@sympatico.ca

8:00 a.m. Highway 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. Chevremont; left

(west) on Chevreumont to Montée de l'Église; right (north) on de l'Église to Ch. Bord-du-Lac; right (east) on Bord-du-Lac to park entrance, approx. 1 km. Parking: \$8.00. Looking for shorebirds, waterfowl and migrating passerines. **Half day.**

08 h 00 De l'autoroute 40, prendre la sortie pour le boulevard St-Jean nord et continuer sur celui-ci jusqu'au boulevard Gouin. Tourner à gauche (ouest) sur Gouin et continuer jusqu'au boulevard Jacques-Bizard. Tourner à droite (nord) sur Jacques-Bizard et traverser le pont. Tourner à gauche (ouest) sur le boulevard Chevreumont et continuer jusqu'à la Montée de l'Église. Tourner à droite (nord) sur celle-ci et continuer jusqu'au chemin du Bord-du-Lac. Tourner à droite (est) sur celui-ci et continuer jusqu'à l'entrée du parc (environ 1 km). Stationnement : 8,00 \$. Espèces recherchées : limicoles, sauvagine et passereaux en migration. **Demi-journée.**

Saturday, October 26 – samedi 26 octobre
Spontaneous Autumn Outing – Location TBD

Guide: Sheldon Harvey – 450-462-1459
ve2shw@yahoo.com

Late fall is an interesting but unpredictable time for birding as late or vagrant migrants may turn up just about anywhere. As a result, the destination of this trip will be determined mere days prior to the actual outing. The destination will be chosen based on a number of factors including weather conditions, bird activity and any special or rare bird sightings reported in the days leading up to the trip. Complete details of the field trip, including the destination, the start time, the meeting spot, and the duration, will be posted on the BPQ webpage and on the Songsparrow Yahoo Group two or three days in advance of the Saturday outing.

La fin de l'automne est un moment intéressant mais imprévisible pour l'observation des oiseaux; des migrants tardifs ou des visiteurs rares pouvant se retrouver à peu près n'importe où. En conséquence, la destination pour cette sortie

ne sera confirmée que quelques jours avant qu'elle n'ait lieu. La destination sera déterminée en fonction d'un certain nombre de facteurs dont les conditions météorologiques, l'activité des oiseaux et la présence d'espèces rares ou spéciales signalée dans les jours précédant la sortie. Les informations détaillées concernant l'excursion, incluant la destination, l'heure de début, le lieu de rencontre et la durée, seront affichées sur le site internet de POQ et sur le groupe Yahoo Songsparrow deux ou trois jours avant la sortie.

Saturday, November 2 – samedi 2 novembre
Beauharnois and Area

Guide: Wayne Grubert – 450-458-5498

Cell 514-774-0811 (Morning of trip only/ Le matin de la sortie seulement) – wgrubert@hotmail.com

8:00 a.m. From Montreal, take Mercier, Champlain or Jacques-Cartier Bridge to Hwy 132. Travel west through Châteauguay to Beauharnois. Meet just west of Beauharnois in the parking area at the western end of the bridge in front of the power station. Alternatively, take Highway 30 west to Exit 22 and take Highway 236 north to where it meets Highway 132. Turn west and cross the bridge to the parking lot. From the West Island take Highway 20 or 40 west to Highway 30 (Toll). Take Highway 30 east to Exit 22 and continue as above. Depending on the weather we will visit a number of spots in the area. Looking for gulls, waterfowl, hawks and late migrants. Mostly a driving trip interspersed with short walks at points of interest. **Half day.**

08 h 00 De Montréal, prendre le pont Mercier, Champlain ou Jacques-Cartier jusqu'à l'autoroute 132. Prenez la direction ouest sur la 132 et continuez passé Châteauguay vers Beauharnois. Nous nous rencontrons juste à l'ouest de Beauharnois dans l'aire de stationnement à l'extrémité ouest du pont en face de la centrale électrique. Vous pouvez aussi prendre l'autoroute 30 ouest jusqu'à la sortie 22 et emprunter l'autoroute 236 nord à son intersection avec la route 132.

Tournez vers l'ouest et traverser le pont pour vous rendre au stationnement. De l'Ouest de l'île, prenez l'autoroute 20 ou 40 ouest jusqu'à l'autoroute 30 (péage). Empruntez l'autoroute 30 est jusqu'à la sortie 22 et continuez comme décrit ci-dessus. Selon les conditions météorologiques, nous allons visiter un certain nombre d'endroits dans la région à la recherche de goélands, oiseaux aquatiques, oiseaux de proie et migrateurs tardifs. Ce sera un voyage avec beaucoup de déplacement en auto et quelques excursions à pied. **Demi-journée.**

Saturday, November 9 – samedi 9 novembre
Parc-nature de la Pointe-aux-Prairies

Guides: Jean Demers and Clémence Soulard
514-694-8240 – jd030824@gmail.com

8:00 a.m. Take Highway 40 East to the exit for Boul. Gouin (Exit 92). Turn left (west) on Gouin Blvd. and follow it for 1.9 km, looking for the blue signs indicating “Parc-nature de la Pointe-aux-Prairies.” The parking lot is located at the Pavillon des Marais section of the park, at 12,300 Gouin Blvd. East. Parking: \$9.00. **Half day.**

08 h 00 À partir de l'autoroute 40 est, prendre la sortie pour le boulevard Gouin (sortie 92). Tourner à gauche, direction ouest, sur le boulevard Gouin. Continuer sur Gouin sur une distance de 1,9 km jusqu'au panneau bleu indiquant l'entrée du Parc-Nature de la Pointe-aux-Prairies. Le stationnement est situé au Pavillon des marais, 12 300 boulevard Gouin Est. Frais de stationnement : 9,00 \$. **Demi-journée.**

Saturday, November 16 – samedi novembre 16
Parc-nature du Cap-Saint-Jacques

Guide: Wayne Grubert – 450-458-5498
514-774-0811 (Cell – Morning of trip only)
wgrubert@hotmail.com

8:00 a.m. Take Highway 40 West. Exit Chemin Ste-Marie. Turn left to Anse-à-l'Orme Road. Turn right and continue to the end. Turn right on Senneville Road (Gouin Blvd.). Continue for 2 km to the welcome centre of the park. Parking: \$9.00. **Half day.**

8 h 00 Prendre l'autoroute 40 ouest. Prendre la sortie pour le chemin Ste-Marie et tourner à gauche sur celui-ci. Continuer jusqu'au chemin de l'Anse-à-l'Orme. Tourner à droite sur celui-ci et continuer jusqu'au bout. Tourner à droite sur le chemin Senneville (boul. Gouin) et continuer sur une distance de 2 km jusqu'au chalet d'accueil du parc. Frais de stationnement : 9,00 \$. **Demi-journée.**

Saturday, November 23 – samedi novembre 23
Parc-nature du Bois-de-Liesse

Guide: Joël Coutu
fauconbleu65@hotmail.com

8:00 a.m. Meet at the south entrance. Take Henri-Bourassa exit 60 off Highway 40 west. Stay on the north service road west to Henri-Bourassa Boulevard (approx. 2 km). Exit east on Henri-Bourassa Blvd. Almost immediately turn left onto rue Douglas-B-Florensi. Drive to the end of the street at 3555. Parking: \$9.00 Looking for late migrating species as well as the possibility of observing local species. **Half day**

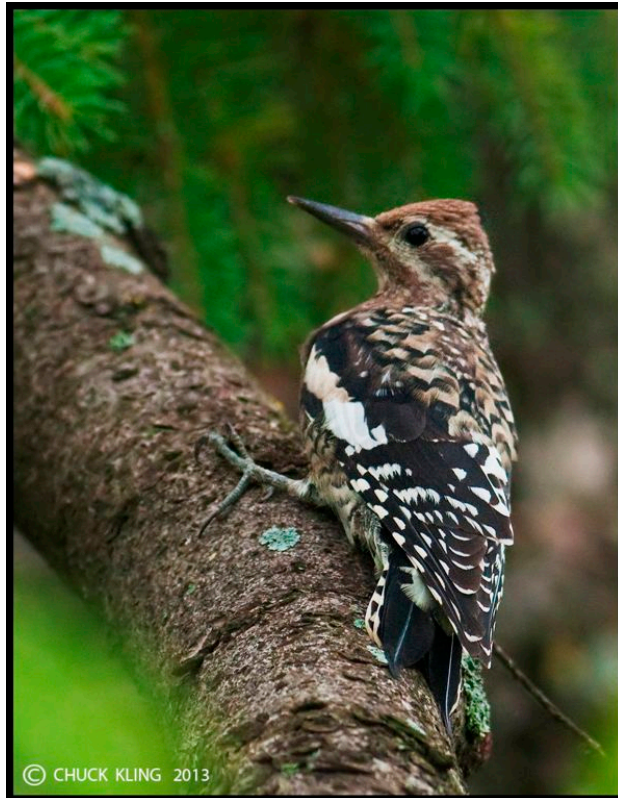
8 h 00 Rassemblement à l'entrée sud. Prendre la sortie # 60 Henri-Bourassa de l'autoroute 40 ouest. Demeurer sur la voie de service nord vers l'ouest jusqu'au boulevard Henri-Bourassa (environ 2 km). Prendre la sortie est du boulevard Henri Bourassa. Presqu'immédiatement, tourner à gauche sur la rue Douglas-B-Florensi et se rendre au bout de la rue, 3555. Stationnement : 9,00\$. A la recherche des espèces migratrices tardives ainsi que la possibilité d'observer des espèces locales. **Demi-journée.**

Saturday, November 30 – samedi 30 novembre
Spontaneous Late Autumn Outing – Location TBD

Guide: Sheldon Harvey – 450-462-1459

ve2shw@yahoo.com

Late fall is an interesting but unpredictable time for birding as late or vagrant migrants may turn up just about anywhere. As a result, the destination of this trip will be determined mere days prior to the actual outing. The destination will be chosen based on a number of factors including weather conditions, bird activity and any special or rare bird sightings reported in the days leading up to the trip. Complete details of the field



Immature Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

trip, including the destination, the start time, the meeting spot, and the duration, will be posted on the BPQ webpage and on the Songsparrow Yahoo Group two or three days in advance of the Saturday outing.

La fin de l'automne est un moment intéressant mais imprévisible pour l'observation des oiseaux; des migrants tardifs ou des visiteurs rares pouvant se retrouver à peu près n'importe

où. En conséquence, la destination pour cette sortie ne sera confirmée que quelques jours avant qu'elle n'ait lieu. La destination sera déterminée en fonction d'un certain nombre de facteurs dont les conditions météorologiques, l'activité des oiseaux et la présence d'espèces rares ou spéciales signalée dans les jours précédant la sortie. Les informations détaillées concernant l'excursion, incluant la destination, l'heure de début, le lieu de rencontre et la durée, seront affichées sur le site internet de POQ et sur le groupe Yahoo Songsparrow deux ou trois jours avant la sortie.

Saturday 7 December – samedi 7 décembre
Casselman and Ste. Rose de Prescott, ON

Guide: Jacques Bouvier – 613-524-1154

bouvier@magma.ca

8:30 a.m.* Meet in the parking lot of Tim Hortons in Casselman, Ontario. From Montreal, take Highway 40 to the Ontario border. Continue on Highway 417 to Exit 66 (Casselman). From the exit, continue north towards Casselman for a short distance. Tim Hortons is on the right as you head north. This will be mostly a driving trip with the possibility of a couple of short walks. Looking for Snowy Owl, Horned Lark and other winter birds of open country as well as other winter residents. **Half day.**

***Note the start time.**

8 h 30* Rassemblement au Tim Hortons à Casselman, Ontario. Emprunter l'autoroute 40 jusqu'à la frontière avec l'Ontario. Poursuivre sur l'autoroute 417 jusqu'à la sortie 66 (Casselman). À la sortie, continuer vers le nord en direction de Casselman sur une courte distance. Le Tim Hortons sera à votre droite. Excursion en voiture principalement, avec la possibilité de faire quelques courtes randonnées. Espèces recherchées : Harfang des neiges, Alouette hausse-col et autres oiseaux d'hiver se tenant dans des endroits à découvert en plus des résidents. **Demi-journée.**

***Noter l'heure de commencement.**