

# The SONG SPARROW

Bird Protection Quebec - Protection des oiseaux du Québec



For the Birds since 1917  
Pour les oiseaux depuis 1917

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**The Song Sparrow:** ISSN 1710-3371

Legal Deposit: National Library and Archives of Canada

**Publication Mail No.:** 40044323

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### **Cover Photo**

Hudsonian Godwits in Hudson, Quebec  
© Richard Gregson 2018

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# President's Word – Volunteering for the Birds

by Jane Cormack  
BPQ President

Saturday, October 20 began, like many Saturdays this fall with rain and wind and the threat of more rain and more wind. Nevertheless, Helen Meredith managed to entice about 10 of us to the Mount Royal Cemetery for a morning of bluebird nestbox maintenance.

When we started, the rain stopped and with so many people, the work was easy enough and it turned out to be a pleasant way to spend a morning. The folks running the cemetery provide us with a boardroom for planning our routes and for sharing our stories afterwards. They also provide us with fresh coffee, which we enjoyed along with Helen's homemade brownies.

The hardest part of the job is actually finding the boxes. Although they are numbered and we have a map, they aren't exactly all lined up in neat rows. They follow all the twists and turns of the cemetery's paths and the numbering has more to do with the date the boxes were installed. It helps to team up with Chuck

Kling, who has been monitoring the boxes every spring and summer for years and can relate stories about every active nest box. Three years ago, he began helping the MBO to band these bluebirds and together, this year, they banded a total of ten bluebirds.



Bluebirds the Mount Royal  
Cemetery © Chuck Kling 2018

The most exciting part, is like birdwatching, never knowing what you'll find when you begin looking. We're always delighted to open a box and see a bluebird nest inside. This is especially true when the nest has been successful. The boxes are also commonly used by wrens and chickadees.

The bluebird nests are easy to distinguish, made of fine grass neatly packed to fill out to the edges of boxes

and dipping down to form a cup in the centre. This year, one team found a nest made of pine needles. I've read that this isn't unusual, but, unfortunately, this time, they found they also found the skeleton of a baby bird. We also found unhatched wren eggs in two boxes. Birds face many threats to survival.

With this awareness, BPQ has been installing, monitoring, and maintaining nest boxes ever since its founding over 100 years ago. Our organization held nest box building contests for children in the 1920s and 30s and, inspired by the bluebird trail programs in the 1970s it stepped up its efforts for installing and monitoring boxes. It all seems to have paid off. 2018 was a record year for a number of bluebirds in the Mount Royal Cemetery.

Maintaining bluebird boxes is one example of our volunteer endeavours. For over 100 years, all our work has been carried out by volunteers. A great many people have stepped in to help achieve our goals of the education, conservation, and observation (ECO) of birds and bird habitat.

And, of course, the work is not done. We can always use a hand. Why not get involved? If you have time to help out for a few hours only, you could sign up for our annual Wood Duck nestbox maintenance in late winter/early spring,

trail maintenance, or spend a couple of hours at our marketing booth, helping to spread the word, at one of the many birding or conservation events we attend. We're also looking for people to help out at our monthly meetings and weekly field trips.



Bluebird banding at the Mount Royal Cemetery  
© Chuck Kling 2018

You could get more involved and join a committee. Perhaps you have a skill that BPQ use could or you'd like to try something new and learn a new skill. Get to know some like-minded people. You may find, as I have found, that with the support of a team and BPQ's resources you can do something positive to help birds and to help ensure their habitats. I have never regretted the time I spend volunteering for BPQ.

If you'd like to find out how you can get more involved, contact us at [birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com](mailto:birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com).

## New Members

We are happy to welcome new and returning members: Andrée Duval, Zöe Thomas and Ian Beattie, Barbara Szabo, Adaire Schlatter, Suzanne Kohl, Stéphane Dapra, Anna and Bill Peterman, Imtiaz Kassim, Wei Ya-Shiung, and Nina Pesner.

We look forward to meeting you at our monthly meetings and on our weekly field trips!

## Membership Renewal

by Darlene Harvey  
Membership Secretary

Annual memberships expired September 30, and we would like to thank all of you who have renewed for the coming year. Your commitment to BPQ is greatly appreciated, and so important to the work we do.

To those who have not yet renewed for this season, ***please be sure to do so right away*** so you don't miss out on any issues of *The Song Sparrow*!

You can easily renew on line at: <https://pqspb.org/bpqpoq/product/bpq-membership/> or by following the instructions on the same web page: "To become a Member by Mail".

If you need more information, contact Darlene Harvey at [bqmembership@gmail.com](mailto:bqmembership@gmail.com).



Bluebird on nestbox with nesting material  
© Chuck Kling 2018

## Bird Views

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

#### June - July 2018

by Pierre Bannon

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck:** the 3 birds photographed at Nature Park Pointe-aux-Prairies, Montréal 10 July (A. Rizi) were down to 2 birds 15 July and then one bird 29 July through 14 Aug. Increasingly reported in summer, this species was visiting the Region for the 4th consecutive year. **Barnacle Goose:** one at La Rédemption 2 June (I. Turner). **Mute Swan:** singles at Saint-Césaire 2 June (M. Berlinguette, M. Maheu), at Baie-du-Febvre 19 June & 21 July (C. Saint-Arneault), and at Drummondville 26-31 July (J. Blackburn). **Trumpeter Swan:** 4 birds at Davidson, Pontiac 1 June (V. Agnesi) and 2 at Saint-Fulgence for the whole season (G. Savard, m. ob.). **Eurasian Wigeon:** singles at Bridgeville 26 June (R. Gingras), Cacouna 1-10 July (M. Beaulieu), Rimouski 1 July (L. Pelletier) and Îles de la Madeleine 2 July (S. Denault et al.). **Tufted Duck:** a male at Sept-Îles 10-13 June (P. Lalonde et al.). **Eared Grebe:** an ad found at Gatineau 1 June (R. Dubois et al.). **Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** at least 6 pairs seen in extreme southern Québec, some carrying food for young.

**American Oystercatcher:** 2 birds at Fatima (Île de la Madeleine) 11-19 June, a fifth regional report (B. Vigneault, A Richard, ph.). **Upland Sandpiper:** a pair found 2 July at Val d'Or was seen with a juv the next day (C. Siano, R. Ladurantaye, F. Hamel), a rare

## Parlons d'oiseaux

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

#### juin - juillet 2018

par Pierre Bannon

**Dendrocygne à ventre noir:** les 3 oiseaux photographiés au Parc-Nature de la Pointe-aux-Prairies, Montréal 10 juil.. (A. Rizi) n'étaient plus que 2 le 15 juil., puis un seul a été noté du 29 juil. au 14 août. De plus en plus signalée en été, cette espèce visitait notre région pour une 4ième année consécutive. **Bernache nonnette:** une à La Rédemption 2 juin (I. Turner). **Cygne tuberculé:** des indiv. à Saint-Césaire 2 juin (M. Berlinguette, M. Maheu), Baie-du-Febvre 19 juin & 21 juil. (C. Saint-Arneault) et à Drummondville 26-31 juil. (J. Blackburn). **Cygne trompette:** 4 oiseaux à Davidson, Pontiac 1 juin (V. Agnesi) et 2 à Saint-Fulgence tout l'été (G. Savard, *pl. ob.*). **Canard siffleur:** des indiv. à Bridgeville 26 juin (R. Gingras), Cacouna 1-10 juil. (M. Beaulieu), Rimouski 1 juil.. (L. Pelletier) et aux Îles de la Madeleine 2 juil.. (S. Denault et al.). **Fuligule morillon:** un mâle à Sept-Îles 10-13 juin (P. Lalonde et al.). **Grèbe à cou noir:** un ad. trouvé à Gatineau 1 juin (R. Dubois et al.). **Coulicou à bec jaune:** au moins 6 couples présents dans le sud du Québec, certains confirmés nicheurs.

**Huitrier d'Amérique:** 2 oiseaux à Fatima (Îles de la Madeleine) 11-19 juin, une 5ième présence au Québec (B. Vigneault, A Richard, ph.). **Maubèche des champs:** un couple 2 juil.. à Val

breeding record in Abitibi. **Ruff**: one at the Barachois de Malbaie 9 June (P. Poulin et al.). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: an ad at Sainte-Anne-de-Sorel 24 July (J. Lemoyne, P. Messier) and 4 ad at Baie-du-Febvre 27–31 July (m. ob.). **Willet**: singles at Pointe au Père 16–19 June (N. Roy et al.) and at Percé 8 July (M. Jaffré). **Red-necked Phalarope**: out of range and out of date, a bird was at Terrebonne 8–20 June (C. Gagnon, D. Guimond). **Mew Gull**: an ad at Pointe-au-Père 9 June (JP. le Bel, G. Raboin, P. Saint-Pierre, *ph.*). **Forster's Tern**: one at Berthier-sur-mer 3 June (C. Deschênes)

**Leach's Storm-Petrel**: one at Rivière-Ouelle 12 & 28 July (T. Biteau). **Brown Booby**: one seen perched on the Bella Desgagnés ferry between Blanc Sablon and Saint-Augustin 27 July, a second record only for the Region (I. Legault, *ph.*). **American White Pelican**: one in the Lachine's Rapids 4–6 July (R. Guillet, *m.ob.*)

**Tricolored Heron**: singles at Montmagny 8 June (JD. Poulin and L. Boissonneault), at Rivière Ouelle 10 June (L. Messely), and at Sept-Îles 11 June (J. Galineau, P. Lalonde). **Black Vulture**: one at Sainte-Famille (Île d'Orléans) 29 July (R. Fournier). **Long-eared Owl**: a bird photographed at Inukjuak (Nunavik) 9 June, probably the northernmost record in the Region (E. Nastapoka).

**Red-headed Woodpecker**: single ad at La Minerve 9 July (F. Mathieu) and in the Pumpkinseed Bay, Calumet 12 July (J. Bouvier). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: singles at Saint-Majorique 8 July (ML. Jetté) and at Batiscan 20 July (J. Leclerc, S. Robert). **Common Redpoll**: rare in summer so far south, several birds were reported at Rivière-Ouelle, Rimouski and l'Anse au Griffon in late July (*m. ob.*).

**Hooded Warbler**: one at Routhierville 9 July (Y. Scholten). **Field Sparrow X Clay-colored Sparrow**: this presumed hybrid was photographed and heard singing like a Clay-colored Sparrow at Godmanchester 2–3 July. This hybrid was accompanied by an imm sparrow, possibly a second generation bird (R. Fortin,

d'Or, aperçu avec un juv. le lendemain (C. Siano, R. Ladurantaye, F. Hamel), une rare nidification en Abitibi. **Combattant varié**: un au Barachois de Malbaie 9 juin (P. Poulin et al.). **Bécassin à long bec**: un ad. à Sainte-Anne-de-Sorel 24 juil.. (J. Lemoyne, P. Messier) et 4 ad. à Baie-du-Febvre 27–31 juil.. (*pl. ob.*). **Chevalier semipalmé**: des indiv. à Pointe au Père 16–19 juin (N. Roy et al.) et à Percé 8 juil.. (M. Jaffré). **Phalarope à bec étroit**: un oiseau à Terrebonne 8–20 juin était inhabituel pour la date et l'endroit (C. Gagnon, D. Guimond). **Goéland cendré**: un ad. à Pointe-au-Père 9 juin (JP. le Bel, G. Raboin, P. Saint-Pierre, *ph.*). **Sterne de Forster**: une à Berthier-sur-mer 3 juin (C. Deschênes)

**Océanite cul-blanc**: un à Rivière-Ouelle 12 & 28 juil. (T. Biteau). **Fou brun**: un perché sur le traversier Bella Desgagnés entre Blanc-Sablon et Saint-Augustin 27 juil., une 2ième présence seulement au Québec (I. Legault, *ph.*). **Pélican d'Amérique**: un dans les rapides de Lachine 4–6 juil. (R. Guillet, *pl.ob.*)

**Aigrette tricolore**: des indiv. à Montmagny 8 juin (JD. Poulin and L. Boissonneault), à Rivière-Ouelle 10 juin (L. Messely) et à Sept-Îles 11 juin (J. Galineau, P. Lalonde). **Urubu noir**: un à Sainte-Famille (Île d'Orléans) 29 juil.. (R. Fournier). **Hibou moyen-duc**: un oiseau photographié à Inukjuak (Nunavik) 9 juin, probablement la présence la plus septentrionale au Québec (E. Nastapoka).

**Pic à tête rouge**: des ad. à La Minerve 9 juil. (F. Mathieu) et à la baie Pumpkinseed, Calumet 12 juil. (J. Bouvier). **Tyrann à longue queue**: des indiv. à Saint-Majorique 8 juil.. (ML. Jetté) et à Batiscan 20 juil.. (J. Leclerc, S. Robert). **Sizerin flammé**: rare en été aussi au sud, quelques oiseaux ont été signalés à Rivière-Ouelle, Rimouski et l'Anse-au-Griffon à la fin de juil.. (*pl. ob.*)

**Parc de Paruline à capuchon**: une à Routhierville 9 juil.. (Y. Scholten). **Bruant des champs X Bruant des plaines**: ce présumé hybride a été photographié et entendu chantant comme un Bruant des plaines à Godmanchester 2–3 juil.. Cet hybride était

L. Lemay, N. Guénette, *ph.*). **Nelson's Sparrow**: one photographed at Dundee 9 June, unusual for this inland locality (J. Masson, M. Lemay). **Orchard Oriole**: a pair was still present in early June along the Tomifobia Trail at Stanstead but nesting attempt probably failed this year as the male disappeared soon after (S. Kohl); another pair was found near Pike River 29 May but only the male remained in the area thereafter throughout 27 June (M. Asselin).

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](mailto:pbannon@videotron.ca)

accompagné par un bruant imm., possiblement un hybride de 2ième génération (R. Fortin, L. Lemay, N. Guénette, *ph.*). **Bruant de Nelson**: un photographié à Dundee 9 juin, inhabituel pour cette localité (J. Masson, M. Lemay). **Oriole des vergers**: un couple était à nouveau présent au début de juin au sentier Tomifobia à Stanstead mais une tentative de nidification semble avoir avorté puisque le mâle est disparu par la suite (S. Kohl); un autre couple était présent près de Pike River 29 mai, mais seul le mâle est demeuré sur place par la suite jusqu'au 27 juin (M. Asselin).

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

## Monday Night Lectures

### Historical Changes in Birdlife at the Montreal Botanical Garden

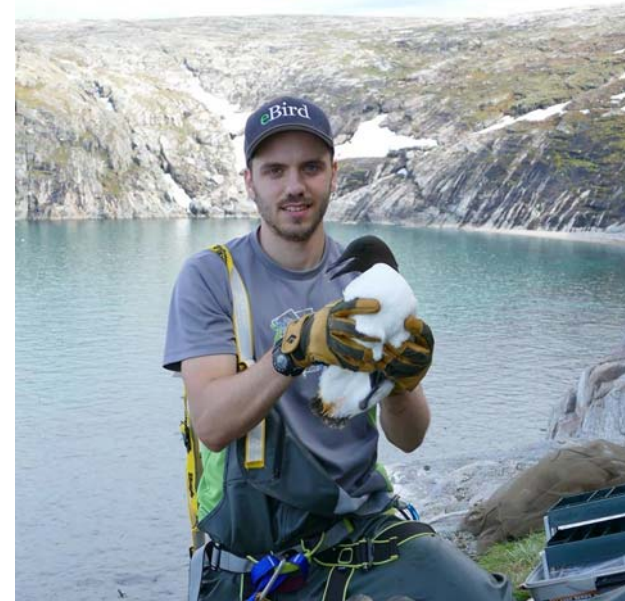
**Why are most bird species in decline? Why are a few species still flourishing?**

**A Presentation by Émile Brisson Curadeau**

**Monday, November 5, 7:30 p.m.  
Kensington Presbyterian Church  
6225 Godfrey Ave., NDG**

A native of Rosemount, Quebec, Émile spent most of his formative birdwatching years at the Botanical Garden of Montreal. Quite often, he met experienced birdwatchers who had been birding at the Garden for decades. They would tell him that "back in the old days" they would see many more species in far less time. This raised the question for Émile : was the Botanical Garden really the paradise of birds that they argued it was, or were their tales just collective unjustified nostalgia?

He decided to answer the question once and for all by looking at data stored in eBird collected by the most renowned and faithful birdwatcher at the Botanical Garden: Guy Zenaitis. Turns out the older folks were right, his observations indeed show a strong decline in most species...but not all! During this presentation, Émile will try to explain why some bird species have declined while others have flourished.



Émile Brisson Curadeau studying Thick-billed Murrelets in the Arctic

Recently, Émile completed his MSc degree at McGill University. His studies focused on Thick-billed Murrelets nesting in the Arctic. He used acceleration/depth recordings to learn about the dives of these birds and to determine their prey species. He is hoping to demonstrate that these recordings will provide a useful method for monitoring changes in fish species caused by climate change.

# Birds and Books: The Blacker-Wood Collection in Zoology and Ornithology

A presentation by Dr. Victoria Dickenson

Monday, December 3, 7:30 p.m.  
Kensington Presbyterian Church  
6225 Godfrey Ave., NDG



An image of one of the only known paintings by Elizabeth Gwillim – a life-sized collection of birds of India

The Blacker-Wood Library of Zoology and Ornithology was originally founded in 1920 by Dr. Casey Wood. A well-known ophthalmologist and collector, in addition to the Blacker Wood, he helped build some of McGill's other great collections, including the Osler Library and the Redpath Museum.

Some of the treasures he acquired include the Ivanow collection of Persian, Arabic, and Urdu manuscripts, the unique 17th-

century Feather Book, a selection of olas (palm leaf manuscripts from Sri Lanka) as well as the archives of the Montreal Natural History Society, manuscripts on zoology, and hundreds of original letters from 19th and 20th century naturalists.

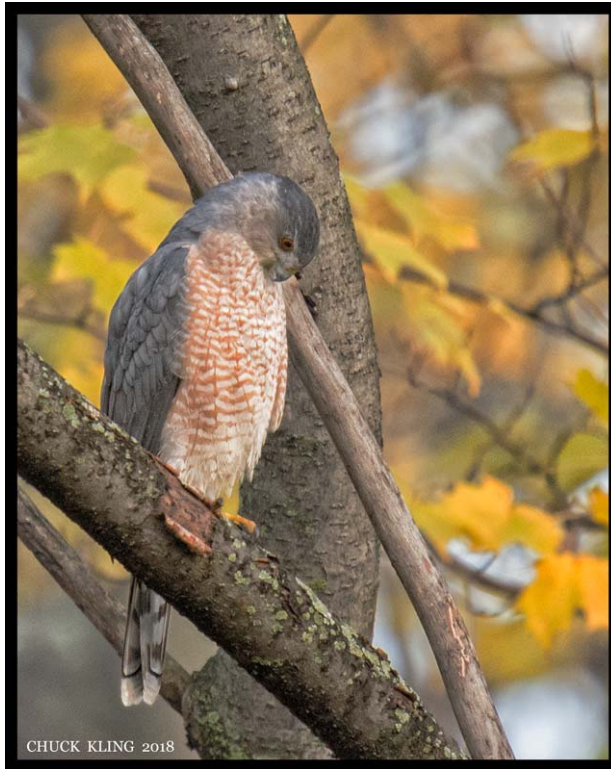


Victoria Dickenson

Wood was also a bird fanatic! Not only did he sponsor the publication of *The Birds of Fiji* (1923) and the coloured plates to *Birds of Ceylon* (1927–35), he also amassed one of the world's great libraries of bird books and art, the Blacker Wood.

The collection holds upwards of 14,000 rare books, as well as manuscripts (like Seebohm's original field notes for *Birds of Siberia*, or Joseph Banks' *Notes on his voyage to Newfoundland*) and over 10,000 drawings and paintings, chiefly of birds, including: over 900 paintings by Charles Collins, Peter Paillou, Eleazar Albin, George Edwards and Gerhard Ehret, which were commissioned by the 18th-century naturalist Taylor White; the only known paintings by Elizabeth Gwillim – a life-sized

collection of birds of India (see image on the previous page); as well as original studies by some of the greatest bird illustrators, including Elizabeth and John Gould, Edward Lear, and Joseph Wolf. This presentation offers an opportunity to view some of the highlights of this collection and explore its relevance and importance for contemporary bird watchers and ornithologist.



Cooper's Hawk  
© Chuck Kling 2018



Pine Grosbeak © Chuck Kling 2018

# BPQ's 2017 Christmas Bird Counts (CBC)

## The 83d Annual Montreal CBC – Saturday, December 15 and the 78th Annual Hudson CBC – Saturday, December 22

Two of Bird Protection Quebec's (BPQ) most popular annual events, the Montreal Christmas Bird Count and the Hudson Christmas Bird Count will take place on Saturday, December 15, 2018 and Saturday, December 22, 2018 respectively. The annual bird counts play a vital role in tracking local and national birding trends and are very important events on the citizen science calendar. We are once again counting on your participation. Jean Demers, Clémence Soulard, and Sheldon Harvey make up the BPQ Christmas Count Committee. Sheldon will be responsible for the Montreal Count, with Jean and Clémence looking after the Hudson Count.

We hope that many of you who participated in previous years will return again this year, but we encourage those of you who have not previously participated to get involved. We still have space and territories available to add more people. We have a long-standing tradition to uphold and, with everyone's support and cooperation, we aim to carry it on.

Teams of birders are assigned designated sections of territory within the Montreal and Hudson circles. 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, regardless of whether it's a common or rare species. Seeing some "good birds" is always an added bonus, but the goal of the day is to count each and every bird of each and every species. If you live anywhere within the count circles 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. All previous participants will be receiving an e-mail from us inquiring about your possible participation again this year, covering the same territory. If you would like to move to a different territory, we will do our best to accommodate.

If you are new to the Christmas counts and are interested in becoming a field participant, please contact us and we will assign you to a sector on a team with some experienced Christmas counters.

Following the Montreal count, an informal social will be held at the Montreal West Curling Club, 17 Ainslie Road in Montreal West, at 4:00 p.m. All participants are invited to attend for a bite to eat and to submit their findings of the day. Food will be provided and there will be a cash bar. The results of the day's count will be tabulated and everyone is encouraged to share their birding experiences of the day.

Following the Hudson count, an informal social will be held at the St-Hubert Barbecue restaurant, 601 avenue St-Charles, in Vaudreuil; Exit 35 from Highway 40. Various finger foods will be provided (onion rings, chicken wings, Nachos, mini-brochettes, mini-spring rolls, etc.) The room will be available from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Full details of both BPQ Christmas Bird Counts can be found on the following BPQ website link

[http://pqspb.org/bpq2/?page\\_id=139](http://pqspb.org/bpq2/?page_id=139)

We look forward to your participation

again this year. If you have any questions, please contact us.

For the Montreal Christmas Bird Count, please contact Sheldon Harvey, e-mail: [ve2shw@yahoo.com](mailto:ve2shw@yahoo.com) or telephone: 450-462-1459.

For the Hudson Christmas Bird Count, please contact Jean Demers, e-mail: [cbchudson2@gmail.com](mailto:cbchudson2@gmail.com) or telephone: 514-694-8240.

Watch the Songsparrow e-mail forum and the BPQ Facebook page for further information as the events approach.



Red-breasted Nuthatch © Chuck Kling 2018

## Past Field Trips: August to October

### 11/08/18 – St-Lazare/Ste- Marthe/St-Justin de Newton/Pointe Fortune

**Guide: Sheldon Harvey**

Warm & sunny. 9 birders; 64 species

**Birds of the Day:** 6 species of shorebirds

**Other Birds of Note:** Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Merlin, American Redstart, Cape May Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting

### 25/08/18 – Parc Nature du Bois-de-l'île-Bizard, Montréal

**Guide: Mat Mutzl**

Hot, humid, sunny. 17 birders; 40 species

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

**Other Birds of Note:** Blue-winged Teal, Green-winged Teal, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Brown Creeper, Magnolia Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler

### 01/09/18 – Lac St- François Reserve, Dundee

**Guides: Sheldon Harvey & Wayne Grubert**

Hot, humid, overcast. 16 birders; 50 species

**Birds of the Day:** Caspian Tern, Hermit Thrush

**Other Birds of Note:** Wood Duck, Osprey, Merlin, Alder Flycatcher, Eastern Bluebird, Nashville Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Cape May Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Purple Finch



Golden-crowned Kinglet  
© Chuck Kling 2018

### 08/09/18 – Parc des Îles de Boucherville, Boucherville

**Guide: Frédéric Hareau**

Clear sky, mild. 20 birders; 55 species

**Bird of the Day:** Olive-sided Flycatcher

**Other Birds of Note:** Blue-winged Teal, Spotted Sandpiper, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Osprey, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Blue-headed Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Winter Wren, Purple Finch, Lincoln's Sparrow, Northern Waterthrush, Tennessee Warbler,

Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Cape May Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Scarlet Tanager

## **23/09/18 – Parc de l'Île-de-la-Visitation, Montreal**

**Guide:** Joël Coutu

Sunny, mild. 19 birders; 52 species

**Birds of the Day:** 11 warbler species & Olive-sided Flycatcher

**Other Birds of Note:** Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Blue-headed Vireo, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Swainson's Thrush, Hermit Thrush, (Warblers) Black & white, Tennessee, Nashville, Common Yellowthroat, Magnolia, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Yellow-rumped, Wilson's

## **29/09/18 - Parc des Étangs-Antoine-Charlebois, St-Amable**

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey

Sunny, mild. 16 birders; 34 species

**Birds of the Day:** Common Loon (fly-over), Greater Yellowlegs, Lincoln's Sparrow

**Other Birds of Note:** Wood Duck, Pied-billed Grebe, Cooper's Hawk, Common Raven, Swainson's Thrush, Hermit Thrush, White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco

## **06/09/18 – BPQ Montée Biggar Sanctuary, Godmanchester**

**Guides:** BPQ Board members

**Note:** This was a special event to inaugurate BPQ's new Montée Biggar Sanctuary

Cool, overcast. 45 birders; 25 species

**Birds of the Day:** Red-tailed Hawk, Palm Warbler

**Other Birds of Note:** Great Blue Heron, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Merlin, Common Raven, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow



Hermit Thrush © Chuck Kling 2018

## 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 contactez 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 10 November – samedi 10 novembre

### Hungry Bay, Beauharnois, St Timothée Area

<https://goo.gl/maps/uE4FZJKsM12>

**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.** Meet at Hungry Bay. If you are taking the Mercier Bridge from Montreal, go (left) east on Highway 132 for 4.5 km to Highway 730. Take Highway 730 to its junction with Highway 30. Proceed west on Highway 30 for approximately 33 km to the exit for Highway 530. Take Highway 530 until its end. Turn left onto Highway 132, crossing the bridge, and continue approximately 1.0 km. Turn right on Chemin du Canal. Bear right after 2.3km and continue following Chemin du Canal to its end. **Caution:** This becomes a very narrow road. An alternative route, especially from the West Island, is to take Hwy 20 or 40 west past Vaudreuil-Dorion to Highway 30. Take Highway 30 (Toll \$2.80) and then exit onto Highway 530 and continue as per instructions above.

During this fall migration period we will be looking for goldeneyes, scaup, grebes, scoters and other diving waterfowl which never fail to frequent this region. We will look for other migrants including passerines and raptors. We will begin our trip at Hungry Bay near Valleyfield, then go back along the Beauharnois Canal visiting the ponds at Saint-Louis de Gonzague and finish our outing at St Timothée. **Half Day.**

**8h00** Rassemblement à Hungry Bay. Si vous arrivez depuis le pont Mercier en provenance de Montréal, prenez vers l'est (gauche) sur la route 132 pour 4.5 km jusqu'à l'autoroute 730. Prenez l'autoroute 730 jusqu'à sa jonction avec l'autoroute 30. Continuez vers l'ouest sur l'autoroute 30 pendant environ 33 km jusqu'à la sortie vers l'autoroute 530. Prendre l'autoroute 530 jusqu'au bout. Tournez à gauche sur la route 132, traversez le pontet et continuez environ 1.0 km. Tournez à droite sur Chemin du canal. Restez à droite après 2.3 km et continuez jusqu'au bout du Chemin du Canal. Faites attention: C'est une route très étroite. Un itinéraire alternatif, en particulier depuis l'ouest de l'île de Montréal, consiste à prendre l'autoroute 20 ou 40 Ouest passé Vaudreuil-Dorion jusqu'à l'autoroute 30. Prenez l'autoroute 30 (frais de 2,80 \$), puis sortez sur l'autoroute 530 et continuez en suivant les instructions données ci-dessus.

En cette période de migration automnale, nous serons à la recherche des garrots, fuligules, grèbes et macreuses et autres canards plongeurs qui ne manquent pas de fréquenter la région du canal de Beauharnois. Nous chercherons également les autres migrateurs, notamment les passereaux et rapaces. Nous débiterons notre excursion par Hungry Bay, aux abords de Valleyfield, puis remonterons le canal de Beauharnois, visitant les étangs de Saint-Louis-de-Gonzague, pour finir notre sortie à St Timothée. **Demi-journée.**

## Saturday 17 November - samedi novembre 17

### Parc Nature Du Cap-St-Jacques

**Guide:** Wayne Grubert 450-458-5498  
514-774-0811 (Cell - morning of trip only / le matin de la sortie seulement)  
[wgrubert@hotmail.com](mailto: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 *chalet d'accueil* of the park. Parking: \$9.00. **Half day.**

**8h00** Prenez l'autoroute 40 ouest. Prenez la sortie pour le chemin Ste-Marie et tournez à gauche sur celui-ci. Continuez jusqu'au chemin de l'Anse-à-l'Orme. Tournez à droite sur celui-ci et continuez jusqu'au bout. Tournez à droite sur le chemin Senneville (boul. Gouin) et continuez sur une distance de 2 km jusqu'au chalet d'accueil du parc. Frais de stationnement : 9,00 \$. **Demi-journée.**

# Saturday 24 November - samedi 24 novembre

## Fort Chambly & the Richelieu River

<http://goo.gl/maps/hz9cT>

Rendezvous

<http://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/qc/fortchambly/> Fort Chambly Website

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey: [ve2shw@yahoo.com](mailto:ve2shw@yahoo.com) 450-462-1459

Cell: Morning of the trip only, after 6:00 a.m. / Cellulaire pour le matin de la sortie seulement après 6h00

514-637-2141 [ve2shw@yahoo.com](mailto:ve2shw@yahoo.com)

**8:00 a.m.** Meet at the Fort Chambly National Historic Site, 2 rue de Richelieu, Chambly, Quebec, in the main parking lot (free parking). From Montreal, take the Champlain Bridge to the South Shore. Continue on Autoroute 10–Eastern Townships Autoroute. Take Exit 22–Direction Chambly. Drive on Boul. Frechette to the intersection with av. de Bourgogne. Turn right on av. de Bourgogne and follow it along until you cross a small bridge over the Chambly Canal. The entrance to the Fort Chambly parking will be on your left past the bridge.

**Option 2)** Mercier Bridge to Highway 132 to Autoroute 730 to Autoroute 30. Follow Autoroute 30 to Autoroute 10 and follow instructions from Autoroute 10 above.

**Option 3)** From the West Island, take the 40 or 20 to Autoroute 30. Follow Autoroute 30 to Autoroute 10 and follow instructions from Autoroute 10 above.

We begin at the rapids area on the Chambly Basin located behind the old fort. We will then drive through the town of Chambly checking

various observation points on the Richelieu River. We'll then drive south along Highway 223 following the Richelieu River to St-Jean-sur-Richelieu where we will make several stops at observation points along the riverfront. Walking and driving trip. **Half Day.**

**8 h 00.** Rendez-vous au lieu historique national du Fort-Chambly, 2 rue de Richelieu, Chambly, Québec, dans le stationnement principal (stationnement gratuit). De Montréal, prendre le pont Champlain vers la Rive-Sud. Continuer sur l'autoroute 10 – Cantons de l'Est. Prenez la sortie 22 – Direction Chambly. Continuez sur le Boul. Frechette jusqu'à l'intersection avec av. De Bourgogne. Tournez à droite sur l'avenue de Bourgogne et suivez le long du bassin jusqu'à ce que vous traversiez un petit pont sur le canal de Chambly. L'entrée du stationnement du Fort-Chambly sera sur votre gauche juste un peu après le pont.

**Option 2:** Pont Mercier à l'autoroute 132. Continuez jusqu'à l'autoroute 730 ensuite, continuez jusqu'à l'autoroute 30. Suivez l'autoroute 30 jusqu'à l'autoroute 10 et suivez les instructions de l'autoroute 10 ci-dessus.

**Option 3:** de l'ouest de l'île, prenez la 40 ou 20 jusqu'à l'autoroute 30. Suivez l'autoroute 30 jusqu'à l'autoroute 10 et suivez les instructions de l'autoroute 10 ci-dessus.

Nous visiterons tout d'abord la zone des rapides sur le bassin de Chambly située derrière l'ancien fort. Nous nous déplacerons ensuite en voiture à travers la ville de Chambly pour visiter différents points d'observation sur la rivière Richelieu. Nous nous déplacerons par la suite vers le sud le long de la route 223 en suivant la rivière Richelieu à travers Carignan jusqu'à Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu où nous ferons plusieurs arrêts à des points d'observation le long de la rivière. Sortie combinant marche et déplacements en voiture. **Demi-journée**