

# The **SONG SPARROW**

Bird Protection Quebec - Protection des oiseaux du Québec

Vol 58-5    April 2016

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**

White-throated Sparrow © Richard Gregson

**The Accidental Birdwatcher by Michael Spencer 1**

**The President Chirps 5**

**Call for New Directors 6**

**Bird Views 7**

**Annual General Meeting and Party 9**

**Calling All Canadian Birders – Let's Have Some Fun 11**

**In Pursuit of Other Winged Creatures 15**

**Birding on the West Island: A Guide to Bird Finding West of Montreal 17**

**Past Field Trips 19**

**Upcoming Field Trips 21**

**BPQ Birding Calendar April through June 2016 30**

# THE ACCIDENTAL BIRDWATCHER

Michael Spencer



## The Accidental Birdwatcher by Michael Spencer

A Review by David M. Bird

In a nutshell, *The Accidental Birdwatcher* is a life list with a life described between the listings. When I was approached by the author's devoted partner, Maqbool, much too long ago I'm ashamed to say, to write a review of his book for Bird Protection Quebec's newsletter, *The Song Sparrow*, I initially cringed for two reasons. First, I am a retired professor who still writes about 15,000 words annually (it used to be 50,000!) for my two birding columns and both of these bimonthly chores have deadlines. Without a deadline, I am a hopeless procrastinator. Second, writing a book review entails me being judgmentally honest, which I detest. Evaluating students was my most disliked task as a professor. But Michael Spencer has been a friend of mine for a good three decades, and I could hardly refuse his wishes. Moreover, to reflect that relationship, it is my desire to refer to him by his first name throughout the review.

I envy this lovely, gentle man for three reasons. First, I wish I had the discipline to put to paper bird observations and other happenings in my life on a regular basis like he has done. Second, and related to the first, I envy the fact that he has written a book on his life and in such a detailed factual way. And third, I have always envied Michael, not because of his interest in birding, but because of his connection to the world of feature films. You see, I have always adored the movies. I recall him trying unsuccessfully to get a screenplay synopsis I had written into the hands of a known director. The beauty of his new book, essentially his life story, describes how he managed to intertwine his vocation, that of a promoter of Canadian films by

securing bridging funds for budding film producers, with his passion for watching birds. It is quite clear in the book that the latter always took precedence. This was best illustrated by a trip to Israel with a Canadian delegation mentioned in the first chapter. When Maqbool asked him whether he had gotten to meet the Prime Minister, he replied, “No, but I think I saw a Dead Sea Sparrow.” I can just hear him mouthing those words.

Now, I do not know if Michael has ever heard of the concept “spark bird;” it is basically that special encounter with a bird species that sparks one’s initial interest in birdwatching. In an effort to avoid having to play cricket in an old English school known as Rugby, the birthplace of the sport, Michael and a buddy named Sharon took up birdwatching as a school activity. On their first foray on June 8, 1935, the two friends spotted three gannets at Stanford Reservoir, which, in the end, turned out to be a rather important sighting. The two lads became fast friends, even winning the Stanford Prize for ornithology and earning them each the whopping sum of one pound sterling! And so was born Michael Spencer, the “accidental birder.” By the end of that school year, he had amassed 103 species in his family’s London garden, at Rugby, and at their summer home in North Cornwall.

### Dead Sea Sparrow

© Dûrzan Cîrano

(Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>) or GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>)], via Wikimedia Commons



In 1937 while vacationing in Ireland with his family, Michael developed a love for documentary films and made the decision to pursue a career in the film industry. When World War II began, he enlisted as a cameraman and director for the Canadian Army Film and Photo Unit. When the war finished, Michael settled in Ottawa and worked for the National Film Board. The war was useful in another way too, as he managed to secure (“liberated,” to use his words) a pair of German army 7X50 binoculars for his hobby. It was in Ottawa where he evolved from merely keeping a list of sightings to recording observations and insights in a diary, which formed the basis for this book.

It is those observations and commentary that really make this book such a charming read. It is filled with interesting tidbits about birds, their behaviour, and

means of identifying them. In Michael’s own words, “So, species by species, one bird at a time, I began to enjoy my avocation, adding to my collection of notes and finding satisfaction in being able to recognize songs and even the single notes of sparrows, warblers, and thrushes.”

In 1960, Michael moved to Montreal, where we met each other at various meetings of the Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds (aka PQSPB, now thankfully known as Bird Protection Quebec!). To this day, I never quite knew what Michael thought of me as a cocky, brash and ambitious young chap, but the fact that he honoured me with the task of reviewing the book on his life suggests that he must have seen something of value in me.

I enjoyed reading about his first PQSPB field trip to Île-du-Moine, a place I shamefully never did get to visit in four decades of living in Montreal. It was interesting to note that the leaders of that particular trip were David Sergeant and Ian McLaren, two Quebec birding icons at the time. Another fun section for me was his detailed description of his visit to the West Coast and in particular, Vancouver Island, where I now live. I especially perked up when he talked about Pat Bay and all the fantastic water birds that I still see there today on a regular basis.

Throughout his birding career, Michael has come into contact with some of the great names in the field of ornithology, not just in Canada, but elsewhere in the world. I noted that he spent a goodly amount of time birding in Ottawa with Earl Godfrey, the curator of the ornithology collection of the National Museum and later, the author of *The Birds of Canada* the bible for Canadian ornithologists for many decades. Other famous personages with whom he has rubbed shoulders include Louise de Kiriline Lawrence, a famed, award-winning writer on nature, Dr. Harrison Lewis, the first director of the Canadian Wildlife Service, Professor Paul Kellogg, a pioneer in recording nature sounds at Cornell University, and the great Salim Ali, the most prominent ornithologist in India, to name but a few.

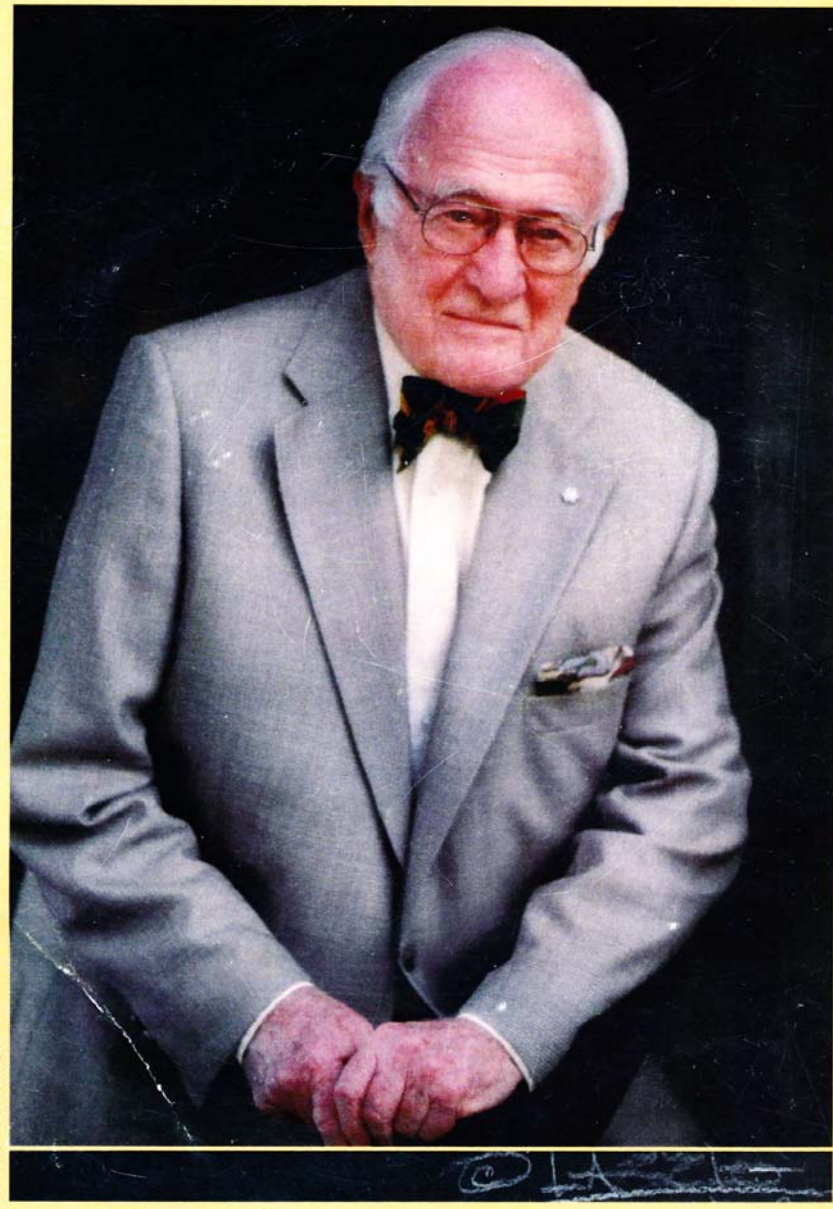
In the first half of the book, I kept expecting to learn how Michael met the love of his life, “the beautiful Maqbool Jung from Hyderabad, India,” but I had to wait until Chapter Eight to find out that he met her at a dinner party in Toronto in October, 1972. He wrote, “For me, the evening was a life-changing experience, the communication was electric and I have been talking to her ever since.” More than that, he turned her into a birder! And in return, Maqbool introduced Michael to both the cultural and ornithological delights of her place of birth, India; much of the second half of the book focuses on Michael’s birding adventures in that country.

What I also liked about this book were the numerous intriguing facts about birds in general, some of which I had never heard of before. For example, he discusses the hypothesis by T.A. Coward, the author of Michael’s first bird book, *The Birds of the British Isles* published in 1932, that woodcocks sometimes fly with their legs dangling down when they are carrying a nestling away from danger. While Michael did not observe this behaviour himself, he did meet two reliable eyewitnesses who claim to have seen it.

The book, comprising 244 pages, is an easy read and each chapter is introduced by a full-sized colour photo of a bird that is of special value to Michael. I was

particularly glad to see that he not only mentioned seeing Gray Jays (or Canada Jays and Whiskey Jacks as he called them) in the book more than once, but also included a photo of one. I could not help wondering if he would agree with my assessment that this bird deserves to be the National Bird of Canada! The book also contains an appendix composed of a goodly collection of colour photos of highlights in this remarkable man’s life, including being honoured with the Order of Canada in 1989, a Genie Award for Lifetime Achievement, and an Honorary Law degree from Concordia University in 2005.

In summary, Michael has led and continues to lead a rich life, filled with good friends, an amazing partner and soulmate, significant contributions to the Canadian film industry, and of course, memories of trips to see birds all over the world. I heartily recommend this book to anyone who loves birds and enjoys watching them and reading about them, especially those residing in Canada.



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David M. Bird is Emeritus Professor of Wildlife Biology and former Director of the Avian Science and Conservation Centre at McGill University. As a past president of the Society of Canadian Ornithologists, a Director with Bird Studies Canada, a Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union, he has received several awards for his conservation and education efforts. Dr. Bird is a regular columnist for both *Bird Watcher's Digest* and *Canadian Wildlife* magazines and is the author of several books and over 200 peer-reviewed publications. He is the consultant editor of DK's *Birds of Canada*, *Birds of Eastern Canada*, *Birds of Western Canada*, and as of April 2016, *Pocket Birds of Canada*. To know more about him, visit [askprofessorbird.org](http://askprofessorbird.org) or email [david.bird@mcgill.ca](mailto:david.bird@mcgill.ca).

Facing photo:

Michael Spencer © Lazlo



*The Inspector*

Downy Woodpecker at a Black-capped Chickadee nest © Brano Kovacevic

## The President Chirps

by Sheldon Harvey, President, Bird Protection Quebec

Spring has arrived, always a very exciting time for BPQ and birdwatchers in general. As usual, we're gearing up for a busy spring season of field trips. You'll find the details for all of our spring outings in this issue of *The Song Sparrow*. We look forward to seeing many of you out in the field over the coming months.

The popular Jim Houghton Spring Warbler Walks at the Westmount Summit will be held each Tuesday morning starting April 26 and running through to the end of May. In addition, thanks to Joël Coutu, we will have a series of Wednesday morning walks at Parc-nature de l'île-de-la-Visitation in May. Barbara MacDuff will be running a series of trips called Birding for Beginners. *For details, see "Upcoming Field Trips" on page 21.* Following our spring schedule, the 13th annual Summer Series of Birding field trips will begin on June 25 and run until August 13, 2016. For details, visit our BPQ website, Facebook page, and Songsparrow e-mail forum.

The BPQ Annual General Meeting is quickly approaching. It will be held on Monday, May 30th. We hope that you will be able to attend. The BPQ annual report will be presented; new Board members and the new Executive will be introduced. This will be followed by a social gathering and bird quiz.

On behalf of the BPQ Board members and the BPQ membership at large, I would like to thank Wayne Grubert, Jean Demers, and Alison Hackney for their years of service on the Board of Directors. All three are stepping down from the Board. Wayne will have reached his 10 years of service on the Board and, due to our bylaw requirements, must step down for a mandatory period of at least one year. He will continue with the BPQ Field

Trip Committee. Jean Demers will carry on with the Membership Services Committee and continue as a member of the BPQ 100th anniversary working group. Alison Hackney will remain a member of the 100th anniversary working group.

The Annual General Meeting will also mark the end of my 2-year term as President of Bird Protection Quebec. I will also be stepping down from the Board having completed my 10-year term. I will remain as Chair of the BPQ Publicity/Outreach committee, and a member of the Field Trip Committee and the 100th Anniversary working group. I will continue as the coordinator for the BPQ Montreal Christmas Bird Count.

I would like to thank everyone within BPQ for the kind words of support and encouragement I have received during my term as President. I would also like to thank all my fellow Board members who have assisted me throughout the two-year term. I look forward to working closely with the new President, Executive Committee, and board members during the transition period.

We are all looking forward to the amazing number of special events, activities and celebrations being planned for Bird Protection Quebec's centenary in 2017 as it inches its way closer and closer. Have a great spring and summer. We'll be looking for you out in the field.

## Call for New Directors

Bird Protection Quebec runs its affairs solely through the contributions of volunteers from amongst our members. There are positions on the board of directors that will be open for election at the May 30, 2016 annual general meeting and we invite all members to submit nominations of new Directors to join the BPQ Board. The deadline for the receipt of nominations for the 2016–2018 term of office is April 18, 2016. All nominees should be members in good standing of Bird Protection Quebec. Nominations must be signed by the nominee and co-signed by two supporters.

By joining the BPQ board, you will help us to develop and implement our charitable work for birds and wildlife, to manage our bird sanctuaries, to work with the newsletter and website, to organize field trips, to develop our conservation and education initiatives, and all the other fascinating and important work that BPQ is involved in. If you are interested in the work of BPQ, or if you wish to nominate someone, please get in touch by e-mail ([birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com](mailto:birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com)) by the April 18, 2016 deadline.

# 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

## February – March 2016

**Barnacle Goose:** singles at Saint-Mathias 18–27 March (P. Bergeron, A. Messier, *m.ob.*), at Saint-Blaise-Saint-Paul-de-l'Île-aux-Noix 18–26 March (G & R. Boulet), at Québec City 22–23 March (C. Nadeau, *m.ob.*), and at Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu 20–23 March (A. Duval et al.). **Mute Swan:** one at La Malbaie 27 Jan (D. Patry). **Tundra Swan:** up to two indiv at Coteau-du-Lac 15–18 March (G. Rand), one at Noyan 26–27 March (G & R. Boulet, S. Robert & G. Laperrière) and one at Saint-Paul-de-l'Île-aux-Noix 27 March (JP. Tousignant, C. Denault). **Northern Shoveler:** one still at Mascouche 4 Jan (C. Nymys et al.). **Canvasback:** one at Carignan 4 Feb (R. Boulet). **Wild Turkey:** birds reported at Rivière Trois-Pistoles and at Saint-Louis-du-Ha!-Ha! seemed to denote a range extension from Maine into the Lower St. Lawrence. **Red-throated Loon:** one at Grande-Rivière 1 Feb (M. Larrivée). **Common Loon:** singles at Saint-Simon-sur-mer 31 Jan (M. Beaulieu) and at Pointe-au-Père 3 Feb (L. Saint-Laurent). **Red-necked Grebe:** singles at Les Bergeronnes 5 Feb (D. Turgeon), Gatineau 6 Feb (J. Savard) and Percé 14 Feb (A. Couture). **Double-crested Cormorant:** 2 at Sainte-Catherine 12 March, a record early date (C. Gagnon et al.). **Great Blue Heron:** singles at Bécancour 30 Jan–23 Feb (Y. Dugré) and at Saint-Hubert 6 Feb (G. Éthier).

**Black Vulture:** 2 birds photographed at Cowansville 12 March, a record early date (B. Hamel). **Turkey Vulture:** one at Varennes 17 Feb (L.

## Février – mars 2016

**Bernache nonnette :** des oiseaux à Saint-Mathias 18–27 mars (P. Bergeron, A. Messier, pl. ob.), à Saint-Blaise-Saint-Paul-de-l'Île-aux-Noix 18–26 mars (G & R. Boulet), à Québec 22–23 mars (C. Nadeau, *pl.ob.*) et à Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu 20–23 mars (A. Duval et al.). **Cygne tuberculé :** un à La Malbaie 27 Jan (D. Patry). **Cygne siffleur :** jusqu'à 2 indiv à Coteau-du-Lac 15–18 mars (G. Rand), un à Noyan 26–27 mars (G & R. Boulet, S. Robert & G. Laperrière) et un autre à Saint-Paul-de-l'Île-aux-Noix 27 mars (JP. Tousignant, C. Denault). **Canard souchet :** un toujours à Mascouche 4 jan (C. Nymys et al.). **Fuligule à dos blanc :** un à Carignan 4 fév (R. Boulet). **Dindon sauvage :** des oiseaux signalés à Rivière Trois-Pistoles et à Saint-Louis-du-Ha!-Ha! pourraient signifier une extension d'aire vers le Bas-Saint-Laurent à partir du Maine. **Plongeon catmarin :** un à Grande-Rivière 1 fév (M. Larrivée). **Plongeon huard:** des oiseaux à Saint-Simon-sur-mer 31 jan (M. Beaulieu) et à Pointe-au-Père 3 fév (L. Saint-Laurent). **Grèbe jougris :** des oiseaux aux Bergeronnes 5 fév (D. Turgeon), Gatineau 6 fév (J. Savard) et Percé 14 fév (A. Couture). **Cormoran à aigrettes :** 2 à Sainte-Catherine 12 mars, une date hâtive record (C. Gagnon et al.). **Grand Héron :** des oiseaux à Bécancour 30 jan–23 fév (Y. Dugré) et à Saint-Hubert 6 fév (G. Éthier).

**Urubu noir :** 2 indiv photographiés à Cowansville 12 mars, une date hâtive record (B. Hamel). **Urubu à tête rouge :** un à Varennes 17 fév (L.

Bernier); another at Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue 1 March was possibly an early migrant (P. Berthelot). **American Coot**: a continuing bird at Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu until 2 Feb (R. Boulet, *m. ob.*). **Ivory Gull**: an imm seen briefly at Pointe-au-Père 17 March (J. Roy-Drainville, *ph.*).

**Red-headed Woodpecker**: singles at Pierrefonds 10 Feb (G. Sirois) and at Québec City 10 Feb–23 March (R. Simard, *m. ob.*). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**: a male at Hemmingford 5 March (S. Vanier, D. Ouellette), a record early date. **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**: a continuing bird at Sainte-Catherine until 13 Feb (N. Guénette, L. Lemay, *m. ob.*). **Eastern Bluebird**: 4 at Saint-Télesphore 31 Jan (D. Collins). **Townsend's Solitaire**: one at Adstock 9 Feb–28 March (D. McCutcheon, *m. ob.*). **Hermit Thrush**: 4–5 birds throughout the period. **Varied Thrush**: a continuing bird at Otterburn Park until 5 Feb (*m. ob.*). **Gray Catbird**: a continuing bird at Sainte-Catherine until at least 6 March (*m. ob.*) and one at Jonquières 7–14 Feb (J. Fortin). Some more birds in March that could be wintering birds or early migrants. **Brown Thrasher**: 5 birds throughout the period. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: a continuing bird at Sainte-Catherine until 9 Feb (*m. ob.*). **Pine Warbler**: an overwintering female at Sainte-Catherine was still around 6 March (*m. ob.*). Two wintering males were still at Sherbrooke 26 March (*m. ob.*). Single birds were also still at Québec City 7 Feb (*m. ob.*) and at Salaberry-de-Valleyfield 21 Feb (D. Gagnon). Finally, single birds at Saint-Hyacinthe 5 March (D. Gendron) and in the Mount-Royal Cemetery 14 March (C. Kling) were thought to be early migrants.

**Chipping Sparrow**: 4 birds reported in Feb. **Lincoln's Sparrow**: a continuing bird at Drummondville 13 Feb (E. Lepage). **Harris's Sparrow**: a continuing bird at Terrebonne until 26 March (*m. ob.*). **Golden-crowned Sparrow**: one at Gatineau 9 Feb–13 March (K. Guilbault, *ph.*). **Yellow-headed Blackbird**: single males at Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu 7–8 Feb (*fide* R. Boulet) and at Cowansville in late Feb (*fide* B. Hamel). **Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch**: singles at Saint-Charles-de-Bellechasse 20–30 Jan (L. Gaboriault, *ph.*) and at Racine 9 March (*fide* G. Perreault, *ph.*)

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)

Bernier); un autre à Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue 1 mars était possiblement un migrateur hâtif (P. Berthelot). **Foulque d'Amérique** : un oiseau encore à Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu 2 fév (R. Boulet, *pl. ob.*). **Mouette blanche** : un imm observé brièvement à Pointe-au-Père 17 mars (J. Roy-Drainville, *ph.*).

**Pic à tête rouge** : des oiseaux à Pierrefonds 10 fév (G. Sirois) et à Québec 10 fév–23 mars (R. Simard, *pl. ob.*). **Pic maculé** : un mâle à Hemmingford 5 mars (S. Vanier, D. Ouellette), une date hâtive record. **Roitelet à couronne rubis** : un oiseau à Sainte-Catherine jusqu'au 13 fév (N. Guénette, L. Lemay, *pl. ob.*). **Merlebleu de l'Est** : 4 à Saint-Télesphore 31 jan (D. Collins). **Solitaire de Townsend** : un à Adstock 9 fév–28 mars (D. McCutcheon, *pl. ob.*). **Grive solitaire** : 4–5 oiseaux furent signalés durant la période. **Grive à collier** : une encore présente à Otterburn Park jusqu'au 5 fév (*pl. ob.*). **Moqueur chat** : un oiseau encore présent à Sainte-Catherine le 6 mars (*pl. ob.*) et un à Jonquières 7–14 fév (J. Fortin). D'autres oiseaux signalés en mars pourraient bien être des hivernants ou des migrateurs hâtifs. **Moqueur roux** : 5 oiseaux signalés durant la période. **Paruline verdâtre** : un oiseau à Sainte-Catherine jusqu'au 9 fév (*pl. ob.*). **Paruline des pins** : une femelle encore présente à Sainte-Catherine le 6 mars (*pl. ob.*). Deux mâles hivernants toujours présents à Sherbrooke 26 mars (*pl. ob.*). Des oiseaux aussi présents à Québec jusqu'au 7 fév (*pl. ob.*) et à Salaberry-de-Valleyfield jusqu'au 21 fév (D. Gagnon). Enfin, des individus à Saint-Hyacinthe 5 mars (D. Gendron) et au cimetière Mount-Royal 14 mars (C. Kling) pourraient possiblement être des migrateurs hâtifs.

**Bruant familier** : 4 oiseaux signalés en fév. **Bruant de Lincoln** : un oiseau encore présent à Drummondville 13 fév (E. Lepage). **Bruant à face noire** : un oiseau toujours présent à Terrebonne 26 mars (*pl. ob.*). **Bruant à couronne dorée** : un à Gatineau 9 fév–13 mars (K. Guilbault, *ph.*). **Carouge à tête jaune** : des mâles à Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu 7–8 fév (*fide* R. Boulet) et à Cowansville vers la fin de fév (*fide* B. Hamel). **Roselin à tête grise** : des oiseaux à Saint-Charles-de-Bellechasse 20–30 jan (L. Gaboriault, *ph.*) et à Racine 9 mars (*fide* G. Perreault, *ph.*)

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)

# Annual General Meeting and Party

**Monday, May 30, 2016, at 7:30 p.m.**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Monday, May 30, 2016, at the Kensington Presbyterian Church, 6225 Godfrey Avenue, NDG.

The Agenda for the AGM will include annual reports by the President and Treasurer respectively, and the election of directors by members in good standing. Members interested in standing for election are reminded that nominations must be received by the Secretary **on or before Monday, April 18, 2016**, as provided for in the Bylaws, and should be accompanied by the names and signatures of a proposer and a seconder who themselves should be members in good standing.

The biographies of candidates for election to the board will be distributed to members by e-mail at least two weeks prior to the AGM. Members wanting copies in advance of the meeting are advised to ensure that an e-mail address is registered with us. Printed copies will be available at the door on arrival at the meeting.

Join us for the end-of-the-year party following the AGM. Be prepared for a fun quiz / trivia contest.

# Special General Meeting:

**Monday, May 30, 2016, at 7:15 p.m.**

(NOTE: La version française suit ci-dessous)

Notice is hereby given that a Special General Meeting (SGM) of the members of Bird Protection Quebec (BPQ) will be held on Monday, May 30, 2016, immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting, at the Kensington Presbyterian Church, 6225, avenue Godfrey, Montreal.

The agenda for the SGM will include the presentation of proposed amendments to the Bird Protection Quebec Bylaws. All members in good standing in attendance will be asked to vote on these proposed amendments. The text of these proposed amendments will be sent to members, along with other documents pertaining to the Annual General Meeting (AGM), prior to the AGM.

A copy of the current Bird Protection Quebec bylaws may be downloaded and reviewed from the following link: <http://pgspb.org/bpqpoq/about/annual-reports/> under the heading "Bylaws."

# Assemblée générale et party

**le lundi 30 mai 2016 à 19 h 30**

L'Assemblée générale (AGA) aura lieu le lundi 30 mai 2016 à 19 h 30 à l'église Knox Crescent Kensington & First Presbyterian, 6225 Godfrey Avenue, NDG.

L'ordre du jour de l'AGA inclura comme d'habitude les rapports annuels respectifs du président et du trésorier. Les nominations pour les postes en élections devront être soumises, par les membres intéressés, au secrétaire le ou **avant le lundi 18 avril 2016**. Les nominations devront être accompagnées des noms et des signatures du proposeur et du secondeur, ces derniers étant membres en règle selon les règlements du POQ.

Les notes biographiques des candidats en élection au conseil seront envoyés par courriel à tous les membres au moins deux (2) semaines avant la tenue de l'AGA. Les membres désirant obtenir une copie avant la tenue de l'AGA devront s'assurer que leur adresse courriel est enregistrée auprès du secrétaire. Le cas échéant, des copies papier seront à votre disposition à l'entrée lors de votre arrivée à l'AGA.

À la suite d'AGA, venez célébrer avec nous. Soyez aussi prêt pour notre grand quiz / jeu questionnaire.

# Assemblée générale extraordinaire: le lundi 30 mai 2016, à 19h15

Nous vous avisons qu'une assemblée générale extraordinaire des membres de Protection des Oiseaux du Québec (POQ) aura lieu le lundi 30 mai 2016, immédiatement avant les réunion et conférence mensuelles habituelles, à l'église presbytérienne Kensington, 6225 avenue Godfrey, Montréal (NDG). Des propositions d'amendements des règlements de Protection des Oiseaux du Québec seront présentées. Tous les membres en règle présents seront invités à voter sur ces propositions d'amendements. Le texte de ces propositions sera envoyé au préalable aux membres, en même temps que tout autre document pertinent à l'assemblée générale extraordinaire. Les règlements actuels de POQ sont disponibles (en anglais) à <http://pqspb.org/bpqpoq/fr/poq-info/rapports-annuelsstatuts/> sous la rubrique «Statuts».

# Education Committee

by Barbara MacDuff



In February education committee members Gay McDougall and Barbara MacDuff visited the Priory School and gave a presentation on feeder birds. The children designed and built feeders to attract Black-capped Chickadees and White-breasted Nuthatches. This was part of a sustainability project that the whole school was participating in. The children especially liked the bird calls that were part of the presentation.

## Calling All Canadian Birders – Let's Have Some Fun

Next year, 2017, marks the centenary of Bird Protection Quebec. A lot will happen in the year (as you will soon learn). In addition to all the local events, we are inviting all Canadian birders, wherever they might live, to join us in having some celebratory fun.

We invite everyone to take part in a little competitive birding by entering some fun birding challenges. We are very aware that birding conditions vary from region to region, so we will be levelling the playing field by looking for winners in *each* province or territory as well as overall Canadian winners.

This will also be a unique opportunity to engage the public in birding, even if only cheering from the sidelines, and also to encourage novice birders to compete against the best we have. The challenges will be in the following categories. Note that, as a conservation charity, we are emphasizing Green Birding:

For experienced birders – a **Green Big Day**. The count period must be completed *entirely* using self-powered means of transport – no cars etc. at any time at all. Walking, cycling, boats, etc. are all permitted. It is accepted that teams may use a car to get to and from the starting point *only*, but no further, and may not use the vehicle again until their count period has ended. They must travel together in one vehicle.

For everyone, whatever their birding skills, whatever their age – a **Big Foot Hour (aka: Sasquatch Hour)** – count the species seen or heard while walking for just one hour, any time of day.

**My Birding Year** – a relaxed Big Year. Green birding rules apply, but all that is asked is that when people go for a walk or a cycle ride from home they keep a list of the birds they see. You can do it very competitively or just as and when the fancy takes you. To keep the playing field level it is not proposed to offer major prizes for this challenge (beyond publicity and recognition) but to seek to involve everyone in Canada in keeping a record of what they see on their local patches during the year. We will be overjoyed if any records are broken, and encourage all to have a go, but that is not the primary objective. **Note:** Big Days and Big Foot Hours can be attempted in either the spring migration months (May–June) or the fall period (September – October)

We are inviting you to **register an early interest** so that we can keep you up to date. There is no commitment requested yet, but if you would like to know more please follow this [link](#) (or e-mail us at [greenbirding@gmail.com](mailto:greenbirding@gmail.com)). Give us your name, location and an e-mail address so that we can make sure you receive full details. It's a year away, but you cannot start scouting and planning too early.

Celebrate 100 years of Bird Protection Quebec when **Canada Goes Birding**. We look forward to hearing from you.

## 2017 BPQ Photo Challenge

In 2017, Bird Protection Quebec will be celebrating its 100th anniversary! From September 2015 to August 2016 we are looking for your bird photos. Each month our panel of reviewers will pick out one favourite and that photo will be included in the 2017 BPQ 100 Year Anniversary Calendar.

For information and guidelines about the Photo Challenge, contact Mathias Mutzl at [mathias.mutzl@gmail.com](mailto:mathias.mutzl@gmail.com) or [bpqphotochallenge@gmail.com](mailto:bpqphotochallenge@gmail.com)

## Défi Photo 2017 de POQ

Au cours de l'année 2017 Protection des Oiseaux du Québec célébrera son 100ième anniversaire. De septembre 2015 jusqu'au mois d'août 2016 nous cherchons vos meilleures photos d'oiseaux. Chaque mois notre panel d'évaluateurs choisira la photo qu'ils jugeront la meilleure et elle sera ajoutée à notre calendrier 2017, l'année de notre centenaire.

Pour toute information et les règles de soumission pour notre défi photo, veuillez contacter Mathias Mutzl à : [mathias.mutzl@gmail.com](mailto:mathias.mutzl@gmail.com) ou [bpqphotochallenge@gmail.com](mailto:bpqphotochallenge@gmail.com)

## Winners / Les Gagnants

- **September / Septembre** : Suzanne, Labbé, Montreal, Quebec
- **October / Octobre** : Tom Kingsbury, Pointe Claire Quebec
- **November / Novembre**: Julie Tremblay, Pointe Claire, Quebec
- **December / Decembre** : Pierre Bannon, Montreal, Quebec
- **January / Janvier** : Paul Shay, Montreal, Quebec
- **February / Février** : Wayne Grubert, Hudson, Quebec

# Marsh Monitoring Program

Get involved and sign up for Bird Studies Canada's Marsh Monitoring Program! It's a fun and relatively easy way to help birds, by collecting data on the presence of species. The program takes place between May 27 and July 12. The goal is to try and find answers to the following:

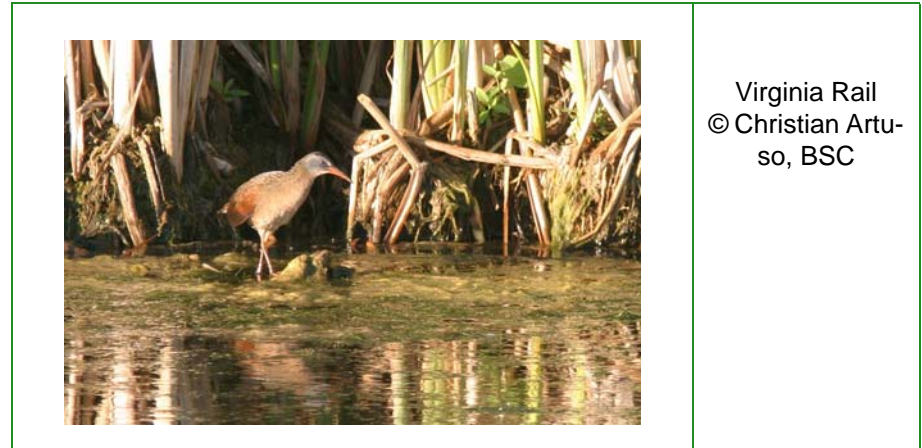
- What is the relative abundance of the various species using marshes?
- What long-term changes in species abundance and range are occurring?
- How do various habitat features influence species diversity and abundance?
- What are the habitat requirements of marsh birds?
- What habitat changes are occurring?

## Marais à surveiller / Marshes to Monitor

- Marais de la tourbière St-Thomas, près de Joliette / near Joliette
- Marais du parc régional de l'Île-Lebel, près de Repentigny, near Repentigny
- Parc-nature de la Pointe-aux-Prairies, Montréal
- Marais sur Grande Île en face de Saint-Louis-de-Gonzague, across from Saint-Louis-de-Gonzague
- Parc de la Frayère à Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac
- Marais Miller près de Rosemère, Laval
- Pointe Hébert, Maple Grove

For more information, contact Frédéric Hareau at [birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com](mailto:birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com)

# Programme de surveillance des marais



Participez dans le programme de surveillance des marais d'Etudes d'Oiseaux Canada. Il vous offre des opportunités de participer, au travers d'inventaires d'espèces d'oiseaux, à des initiatives importantes visant à la conservation des espèces. Il est relativement simple et a été conçu pour être une expérience agréable et intéressante. Ce programme aura lieu entre le 27 mai et le 12 juillet et vise à répondre aux questions fondamentales suivantes :

- Quelle est l'abondance relative des diverses espèces d'oiseaux qui utilisent les marais ?
- Quels sont les changements à long terme sur le plan de l'abondance et de l'aire de répartition des espèces ?
- Comment les caractéristiques de l'habitat influent-elles sur l'abondance et la diversité des espèces ?
- Quels sont les besoins en matière d'habitat des oiseaux ? et
- Quelles sont les transformations subies par les habitats ?

Pour plus de détails, contactez Frédéric Hareau à [birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com](mailto:birdprotectionquebec@gmail.com)

# Bird Fest



## Saturday June 4 2016 9:30 to 5:00 at Nature Expert, 5120 rue de Bellechasse, Montreal

Bird Protection Quebec will be on site. Come visit us and:

- Géry van der Kelen, painter
- Robert Alvo, author of *Being a Bird in North America*
- Serge Beaudette and Jean-Philippe Gagnon
- Live birds of prey
- Adventure Canada
- Regroupement Québécois
- Swarovski Optik, Vortex Canada
- Le Nichoir (bird rehabilitation centre)
- Thai food truck - TukTuk from Une nuit à Bangkok restaurant

Prizes will be drawn and sale prices will be available on a very wide variety of products in store.

RSVP at [info@nature-expert.ca](mailto:info@nature-expert.ca) to attend one of three digiscoping workshops with Clay Taylor, professional photographer and technical advisor for Swarovski Optik, at Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard Nature Park.

# Grande Fête des Oiseaux

## Samedi le 4 juin 2016 9h30 à 17h00 à la boutique Nature Expert, 5120 rue de Bellechasse, Montréal

Protection des oiseaux du Québec sera présent. Venez nous rejoindre et voir :

- Géry van der Kelen, peintre animalier
- Robert Alvo, auteur du livre *Being a Bird in North America*
- Serge Beaudette et Jean-Philippe Gagnon
- Kiosque avec oiseaux de proie vivants
- Adventure Canada
- Regroupement Québécois
- Swarovski Optik, Vortex Canada
- Le Nichoir (centre de réhabilitation d'oiseaux)
- Un camion de nourriture thaïlandaise - le TukTuk du restaurant Une nuit à Bangkok

De nombreux prix à gagner seront tirés à la fin de la journée et des rabais seront disponibles en magasin sur une vaste sélection de produits.

Clay Taylor, photographe professionnel et conseiller technique de Swarovski Optik, donnera trois ateliers portant sur la digiscopie. Les sorties seront au boisé de l'Île Bizard. Veuillez-vous inscrire en nous envoyant un courriel à [info@nature-expert.ca](mailto:info@nature-expert.ca).

# In Pursuit of Other Winged Creatures

## A Pocket Guide to Butterflies

by Rick Cavasin

Searching for rare butterflies can be akin to a treasure hunt. Sometimes, you find yourself using scribbled maps made long ago and handed down from one enthusiast to another. In other cases, you may have nothing more than a vague description of a location where your target species was found in the past. Or you may be trying to discover a new location for that butterfly, based on little more than a hunch, and the presence of suitable habitat. Even if the location is right, the timing is perfect, and the weather is favourable, fortune may not be smiling on you that day, and the object of your quest may not deign to present itself where you can see it.

One of the rare gems of the Outaouais is the Juniper Hairstreak, *Callophrys gryneus*. It is the only butterfly we have that is predominantly green, and with its wings closed, as shown in the photo, it is

Juniper  
Hairstreak,  
*Callophrys  
gryneus*, Porte-  
queue verdâtre  
aka Porte-queue  
du genévrier

© Rick Cavasin



about the size of your thumbnail. The only larval host for this butterfly in our area is the Red Cedar (really a type of juniper). There is only one sizable stand of Red Cedar in the Ottawa-Gatineau area, at the far Western end of Gatineau Park. There lies the only known colony of this butterfly in Quebec, likely a relict of a time when the climate was warmer. This part of the park does not have many trails, and much of the Red Cedar grows on the steep southern slope of the escarpment. There were rumours that if you went to the end of a particular road, you could find an old trail, and if you followed it far enough, you would eventually find an open glade at the base of the escarpment with a number of Red Cedars in it. I followed that trail, and eventually found the legendary glade, but the Cedars were tall, and even if there were any Juniper Hairstreaks lurking around them, there were few flowers in

the glade to attract them down to my level. Later that season, a fellow butterfly enthusiast suggested we try a different spot, where the ridge was more easily scaled. We spent what seemed like hours clambering over the rocky terrain, nudging the cedars in the vain hope that we might flush our quarry from its perch. All we got was dry needles and other debris raining down in our faces. As the sun was getting low in the sky, and our enthusiasm ebbed, we concluded that perhaps we were a bit too late in the season for this species, and we resolved to return at an earlier date the following year. As we turned in the direction of the car, lo and behold, there sat a worn and tattered Juniper Hairstreak, blithely sipping nectar a few yards away. In that condition, it was barely recognizable, so it didn't make for great photos, but the real prize was knowing that the colony still survived. I have returned to this spot

in subsequent years and been rewarded with more sightings, but the butterflies only allow me one closeup photo op per visit.

My passions for butterfly watching and photography eventually led to the creation of *The Pocket Guide to Butterflies*. I began by exhibiting photographs at butterfly shows and making a "Butterflies of Ottawa" poster. Over the years, I've made various posters, in both English and in French, and for different regions. People liked the posters, but many said they would like to have something that they could easily carry in the field.

While travelling in the Southern US, I came across a folding, laminated pocket guide for the local butterfly species. This simple, compact format seemed like the perfect solution, with the added bonus that the lamination makes it durable and weatherproof. But like many other pocket guides, this one included only one image for each species. This is a serious shortcoming since differentiating some very closely related species is difficult (or even impossible) without checking markings on both the upper and lower sides of the wings. In addition, males and females of some species are quite distinct, and some butterflies have seasonal variations. The potential confusion can only be avoided if more than one image is used for these tricky

species. I tried to address this when I put together my own guide. It started off as a guide to Butterflies of Ottawa–Gatineau, but I expanded it to cover Southern and Eastern Ontario. The guide is valid for Southwestern Quebec, since the butterflies found in Eastern Ontario do not respect provincial boundaries. Nevertheless, for some time now, I've wanted to make a similar guide for Quebec. While Southern Quebec has much the same butterfly fauna as Southern Ontario, the rest of Quebec has a more boreal or tundra fauna. A pocket guide like mine could not possibly cover all of Quebec without compromising the level of detail, so I focused on the south. I could not make the guide 100% bilingual in the space available, so I opted to make separate French and English versions of the Quebec guide. As with my Ontario guide, the English version includes French common names, and vice versa.

*A Pocket Guide to Butterflies of Southern Quebec* is Available in English or French at [www.quebec.butterflyguide.ca/pocket-guides/southern-quebec](http://www.quebec.butterflyguide.ca/pocket-guides/southern-quebec)

Visit his website, which is organized like a field guide and is a very useful aid for butterfly identification [www.quebec.butterflyguide.ca](http://www.quebec.butterflyguide.ca).



Rick Cavin is an amateur photographer who has specialized in Butterflies for over a decade. His work can be seen on his website [www.quebec.butterflyguide.ca](http://www.quebec.butterflyguide.ca). In recent years, he has made a special effort to locate and photograph some of the more rare species of Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritimes. He is a top contributor to eButterfly, a site similar to eBird, and his images have been included in several publications including the new *ROM Field Guide to Butterflies of Ontario*.



# Birding on the West Island: A Guide to Bird Finding West of Montreal

by **Richard Gregson**

A Review by Jane Cormack

Spring and summer are wonderful times to pick up your binoculars and explore new places to go birding. And to help you discover Montreal's West Island, you can do no better than turn to Richard Gregson's latest ebook *Birding on the West Island*.

From this point on, I'll continue the tradition started by David Bird in his wonderful article in this newsletter and refer to the author by his first name, for much the same reasons that David has. I have really enjoyed working with Richard on various BPQ committees and projects. I have always admired his dedication to any work he takes on. That dedication is apparent in this guide.

*Birding on the West Island* covers 16 birding hotspots. The descriptions of these sites are formed from Richard's personal experience of living, working, and birding in these areas for more than a decade, reports from friends and neighbours, and the most recent statistics from eBird. Analyzing eBird data is one of Richard's passions, believe it or not.

At the same time, his love and appreciation for the woods, waterfronts, and wetlands of the West Island shine through as does his desire to have other birders get out and enjoy them.

When you read his descriptions, such as that of the trail in Cap St-Jacques Nature Park, you get the sense that he has visited these places many times, in all four seasons. His tips on how to navigate the trails and where to find birds on them are very helpful.

He includes a section on how to access each site, by car and also by bike or public transportation, in an effort to encourage greenbirding, another of Richard's interests.

Before closing, he includes a chapter on how to get birds to come to your own backyard. It is intended for those living in the West Island, but of course, it is useful advice that can be followed by anyone who is looking for a way to help the birds. The book ends with an appendix listing the birds that have been found in some of the more popular sites mentioned in the book.

This ebook is available as a single Adobe pdf file. You can read it on any computer, tablet, or smartphone, or transfer it from one device to another. You can print out sections of the guide if you want to carry paper copies while you're out visiting some of these spots. Each chapter can stand alone.

*Birding on the West Island* is a very useful guide for visitors to Montreal and for those living in the West Island who want to know more about the birds in their own neighbourhood. It can be downloaded free of charge from <http://sparroworks.ca/wildlifing/downloads/a-guide-to-birding-on-the-west-island/>. Donations to Nature Conservancy Canada (NCC) are suggested.

West Island Birdfinding  
by Richard Gregson  
72 pages  
Richard Gregson © 2016

## Projet Colibris

### Report Your Sightings

Jacques Turgeon of Projet Colibris collects data from 2,800 observers, approximately 1,500 per season. He records and maps the first sightings of male and female hummingbirds in Quebec each spring and the dates of their departure in the fall.

You can help by reporting the dates of your first and last hummingbird sightings to Projet Colibris. <http://projetcolibris.org/>

### Help the Hummers

You can attract hummingbirds to your yard by putting up hummingbird feeders and by planting a garden to attract them. The sugar content of the nectar in hummingbird-friendly plants is noted on Projet Colibris' website: <http://projetcolibris.org/>

You can keep your feeders up until the end of October, in Quebec. The food is a supplement and hummingbirds will migrate instinctively when natural food sources run dry. Although the Ruby-throated Hummingbird is the only hummingbird that breeds in Quebec, there are occasionally rare migrants. Generally, these are seen late in the season.

# Past Field Trips

## **23/01/16 – Botanical Garden, Montreal**

**Guide:** David Mulholland

Sunny, windy, -8°C. 14 birders; 13 species

**Birds of the Day:** Cedar Waxwing, House Finch

**Other Birds of Note:** Red-breasted Nuthatch, Dark-eyed Junco, American Robin, American Goldfinch

## **30/01/16 – Urban Birding, Montreal**

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey

Cold, light snow. 7 birders; 16 species

**Birds of the Day:** Downy and Hairy Woodpecker

**Other Birds of Note:** Common Merganser, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Brown Creeper, American Tree Sparrow

## **06/02/16 – Higgins St., Châteauguay, and Récré-O-Parc, Ste-Catherine**

**Guide:** Tom Long

Light snow, mild. 10 birders; 19 species

**Bird of the Day:** Red-bellied Woodpecker (2)

**Other Birds of Note:** Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser, White-throated Sparrow, Mourning Dove, Northern Flicker

## **13/02/16 – Ste-Marthe, St-Clet, and Ste-Justine**

**Guide:** Wayne Grubert

-27°C, winds gusting to 50 kph. 6 birders; 11 species

**Birds of the Day:** Lapland Longspur/Snowy Owl

**Other Birds of Note:** Blue Jay, Horned Lark, European Starling, Snow Bunting

## **20/02/16 – Snowhoeing at Morgan Arboretum, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue**

**Guide:** Richard Gregson

Warm; light rain. 5 birders; 15 species

**Bird of the Day:** Pine Siskin

**Other Birds of Note:** Mourning Dove, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, American Tree Sparrow

## **27/02/16 – Mirabel – Lachute Area**

**Guide:** Frédéric Hareau

Cool; increasingly cold winds. 21 birders; 22 species

**Birds of the Day:** Iceland Gull, Gray Partridge

**Other Birds of Note:** Wild Turkey, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Glaucous Gull, Snowy Owl, Northern Shrike, Common Raven, Horned Lark, Snow Bunting, Common Redpoll

## **05/03/16 – Hudson**

**Guide:** Barbara MacDuff

Sunny; -16, up to -5. 23 birders; 16 species

**Bird of the Day:** Bohemian Waxwing

**Other Birds of Note:** Red-shouldered Hawk, White-breasted Nuthatch, European Starling, Purple Finch

## **12/03/16 - Parc-nature du Bois-de-Liesse, St-Laurent**

**Guide:** Wayne Grubert

Sunny; warm 7°C. 30 birders; 26 species

**Birds of the Day:** Red-shouldered Hawk, Purple Finch

**Other Birds of Note:** Red-tailed Hawk, Pileated Woodpecker, Common Raven, Cedar Waxwing, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Pine Siskin

## **19/03/16 - Secteur-Bois-de-l'Heritage, Parc-nature de la Pointe-aux-Prairies, Montreal**

**Guide:** Joël Coutu

-7°C; sunny. 20 birders; 24 species

**Bird of the Day:** Sharp-shinned Hawk

**Other Birds of Note:** Cooper's Hawks (flying together), Pileated Woodpecker, Brown Creeper, Am. Tree Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin

## **26/03/16 – Parc de la Frayère, Boucherville**

**Guide:** Sheldon Harvey

Mild; icy paths. 10 birders; 25 species

**Bird of the Day:** Bufflehead

**Other Birds of Note:** Wood Duck, American Wigeon, Red-tailed Hawk, Common Raven, Song Sparrow, Brown-headed Cowbird, Purple Finch

# Celebrating Spring Migration / Fêtez la Migration

BPQ presents the following series of spring walks in celebration of spring migration:

## Wood Warbler Walks at Summit Woods – Sorties ornithologiques au Boisé Sommet

Tuesday, April 26 and May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 26 at 7:00 a.m.  
Mardi le 26 avril et tous les mardis de mai

Guide: Jane Cormack 514 578-8249 [cormackjane@gmail.com](mailto:cormackjane@gmail.com)

Meet us at the Summit Circle Lookout. We are an informal group of BPQ members. All are welcome. It's a perfect start to a spring day. To reach Summit Circle, head north on Côte-des-Neiges. Turn left onto The Boulevard. Proceed to Ch. Belvedere and turn right. Drive up the steep hill on Ch. Belvedere to Summit Circle.

Vous êtes invités à vous joindre à l'une ou toutes des marches printanières avec un groupe amical des membres du POQ. C'est une belle façon de commencer une journée du printemps. Pour vous rendre au Summit Circle, dirigez vous vers le nord sur Côte-des-Neiges. Tourner à gauche sur le Boulevard. Poursuivre jusqu'au Ch. Belvédère et tourner à droite. Monter la côte abrupte sur le Ch. Belvédère jusqu'à Summit Circle.

These walks are dedicated to Jim Houghton. – Ces sorties sont dédiées à Jim Houghton.

## Migratory Bird Watching – Observation d'oiseaux en migration

Parc-nature de l'île-de-la-Visitation

Thursday, May 11, 18, et 25 from 7:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Jeudi 11, 18, et 25 mai de 7 h 00 à 11 h 00

<https://goo.gl/maps/jU9nT>

Guide: Joël Coutu 438-930-5092 [fauconbleu65@hotmail.com](mailto:fauconbleu65@hotmail.com)



©CHUCK KLING 2011

Chestnut-sided Warbler © Chuck Kling 2014

**7:00 a.m.** Meet at the welcome centre at the park at 2425, Gouin E., Montreal. From Highway 40 (Metropolitan Blvd) take Papineau north to Henri-Bourassa. Turn right (east) on Henri-Bourassa and turn left on Rue de Lille. Turn right onto Gouin and left into the parking area. Parking available on nearby roads or in the Nature Park's parking lot (cost \$9.00).

Discover the birds of Parc-nature de l'Île-de-la-Visitation (passerines, ducks, raptors, and more) during spring migration, with Joël Coutu. The walks in this series are geared towards new and beginning birders. Joël will point out and identify the birds that frequent the park, introduce participants to birding ethics and build on basic observation skills and techniques.

Joël Coutu is a birding specialist, consultant and lecturer. He has taken courses in ornithology at McGill and Cornell, and conducted bird surveys for Sépaq, the Canadian Wildlife Service, Bird Studies Canada, and several other clients. He has over thirty years experience as a birder, 20 of them at Parc-nature de l'Île-de-la-Visitation.

**7h00** Rassemblement au Chalet d'accueil, 2425, boul. Gouin E., Montréal. De l'autoroute 40 (boul. métropolitain), prenez la sortie Papineau nord jusqu'à Henri-Bourassa. Tournez à droite vers l'est sur Henri-Bourassa et tournez à gauche sur la rue de Lille. Tournez à droite sur Gouin jusqu'au stationnement du parc. Stationnement disponible sur les rues dans le voisinage du parc ou le stationnement du Parc Nature (9\$)

Découvrir les oiseaux du Parc-nature de l'Île-de-la-Visitation (passereaux, canards, rapaces, etc.) durant la période de la migration printanière, avec Joël Coutu. Cette activité est offerte à ceux et celles qui commencent ou qui ont déjà commencé l'observation de la faune ailée. Votre guide vous présentera les espèces qui fréquentent le parc. Les objectifs de ces randonnées seront d'apprendre ou de perfectionner la base, les techniques et l'éthique d'observation des oiseaux, ainsi que de développer une nouvelle façon de regarder et de respecter les oiseaux.

Joël Coutu, spécialiste, consultant, et conférencier en ornithologie, a suivi une formation en ornithologie à McGill et à Cornell. Joël a mené plusieurs inventaires d'oiseaux pour la Sépaq, le Service Canadien de la faune, Études d'Oiseaux Canada, etc. Il possède plus de 30 ans d'observation d'oiseaux et plus de 20 ans au parc-nature de l'Île-de-la-Visitation.

## Upcoming Field Trips

### 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.

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

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

**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, walking shoes, extra socks, sun screen, layers for cold weather, water, and snacks.

### 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.

## Saturday, April 16 - samedi 16 avril Baie-du-Febvre

<https://goo.gl/maps/VTO2X>

Guides: Jean Demers and Clémence Soulard 514-694-8240  
[jd030824@gmail.com](mailto:jd030824@gmail.com)

**8:30 a.m.** Meet at the Route Janelle lookout at Baie du Febvre. Two possible driving routes. First route: Take Hwy 30 east to Sorel and then Hwy 132 east to Baie du Febvre. Look for Route Janelle on your left. Alternate route: Take Hwy 20 east to Exit 185 past Drummondville and then Rte 255 north to Hwy 132. Turn left and look for Rue Janelle almost immediately on your right. Allow 90 minutes driving time from Montreal. Looking for waterfowl, hawks, early spring migrants and thousands of migrating Snow Geese. **All day.**

**8h30.** Rassemblement au poste d'observation (cache) situé le long de la route Janelle, à Baie-du-Febvre. On propose deux trajets. Premier trajet : Prendre l'autoroute 30 en direction est jusqu'à Sorel puis prendre la route 132 en direction est jusqu'à Baie-du-Febvre. Tourner à gauche sur la route Janelle, juste après l'intersection avec la rue principale. Deuxième trajet : Prendre l'autoroute 20 en direction est jusqu'à la sortie 185 située après Drummondville. A partir de cette sortie, prendre la route 255 en direction nord jusqu'à l'intersection avec la route 132. Tourner à gauche sur celle-ci. Immédiatement après, tourner à droite sur la route Janelle. Durée du trajet : 1h30. À la recherche de milliers d'Oies des neiges, d'oiseaux aquatiques, de rapaces et d'autres migrateurs. **Toute la journée.**

## Thursday 21 April - jeudi 21 avril Birding for Beginners - Morgan Arboretum

Come learn the basics of bird identification in the field and observe some early migrants.

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

<http://www.morganarboretum.org/>



Hairy Woodpeckers establishing territory at  
Parc-nature de la Pointe-aux-Prairies

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**Guide:** Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222 [barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)

**9:00 – 11:00 a.m.** From Montreal take Highway 40 west. Take Exit 41. Keep right and bear right at the traffic light. Climb the hill. At the stop sign turn left onto Chemin des Pins and drive 1 km to the parking lot on the left. \$6.00 admission charge for non-Arboretum-members. **Half day.**

**9h00 – 11h00.** De Montréal de l'autoroute 40 Ouest, emprunter la sortie 41, garder la droite et garder la droite au feu de circulation. Monter la côte et au panneau d'arrêt tourner à gauche sur le chemin des Pins et continuer jusqu'au stationnement. Frais d'entrée : 6,00 \$ pour les non-membres. **Demi-journée**

**Saturday, April 23 - samedi 23 avril**  
**Parc-nature du Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard**

<https://goo.gl/maps/JFpO4>

**Guide:** Mathias Mutzl 514-298-7090 [mathias.mutzl@gmail.com](mailto:mathias.mutzl@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 to Ch. Bord-du-Lac; right (east) on Bord-du-Lac to park entrance, approx. 1 km. Parking: \$9.00. Looking for waterfowl, hawks and migrating passerines. **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. Chèvremont 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 : 9,00 \$. Espèces recherchées : sauvagine, rapaces et passereaux en migration. **Demi-journée.**

**Wood Warbler Walk at Summit Woods –  
Sortie ornithologique au Boisé Sommet**

**Tuesday, April 26 at 7:00 a.m.**

**Mardi le 26 avril à 7 h 00**

**Guide:** Jane Cormack 514 578-8249 [cormackjane@gmail.com](mailto:cormackjane@gmail.com)

See / Voir page 20.

**Thursday, April 28 – jeudi 28 avril**  
**Birding for Beginners – Parc-nature du Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard**

<https://goo.gl/maps/JFpO4>

*Learn the basics of bird identification and observe some early migrants.*

**Guide:** Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222 [barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)

**9:00 a.m. – noon.** 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 to Ch. Bord-du-Lac; right (east) on Bord-du-Lac to park entrance, approx. 1 km. Parking: \$9.00.

**9h00 – 12h00.** 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. Chèvremont 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 : 9,00 \$.

**Saturday, April 30- samedi 30 avril**  
**Laval Cemetery and Tylee Marsh / Le Cimetière de Laval et Le Marais Tylee**

<https://goo.gl/maps/7mRBHT4qE5L2>

<https://goo.gl/maps/4NxJ1mBcwsG2>

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

**8:00 a.m.** Meet in the parking lot at the Laval Cemetery, 5505 rang du Bas-Saint-Francois, Laval, QC  
Driving Instructions: The following webpage will give you a map with various route possibilities for getting to the cemetery. <http://www.cimetierelaval.com/en/maps-and-directions/>

The cemetery is a very interesting location with a great mix of habitat. We will drive through it, stopping at a number of different spots to check out the birds. After completing the tour of the cemetery, we will travel in convoy to the Tylee Marsh at 202 chemin de la Grande-Cote

in Rosemere. At the cemetery I will provide everyone with a map of the route from the cemetery to Tylee Marsh. Once there, we will walk the long, elevated boardwalk through the marsh and then take a couple of trails that lead down to the waterfront on the Mille-Îles River. **Half day.**

**8h00.** Rencontre au stationnement du cimetière Laval au 5505 rang des Bas-Saint-François à Laval. Les instructions pour se rendre se trouvent sur ce site internet : <http://www.cimetiereLaval.com/en/maps-and-directions/>

Il devrait vous donner les diverses options pour vous rendre. Le cimetière offre plusieurs endroits intéressants avec une variété d'habitats que nous parcourrons en voiture. Après notre visite au cimetière, nous partirons en convoi pour nous diriger vers Tylee Marsh au 202 chemin de la Grande Côte à Rosemère. Au cimetière nous vous fournirons une carte de la route du cimetière au Tylee Marsh. Nous marcherons sur la passerelle élevée au travers du marais et prendrons quelques sentiers qui descendent sur le bord de la rivière des Mille-Îles. **Demi journée.**

### **Wood Warbler Walk at Summit Woods – Sortie ornithologique au Boisé Sommet**

**Tuesday, May 3 at 7:00 a.m.  
Mardi le 3 mai à 7 h 00**

**Guide:** Jane Cormack 514 578-8249 [cormackjane@gmail.com](mailto:cormackjane@gmail.com)

See /Voir page 20.

### **Thursday, May 5 – jeudi 5 mai Birding for Beginners – Observation pour débutants Morgan Arboretum**

*Come learn the basics of bird identification in the field and observe some early migrants.*

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

<http://www.morganarboretum.org/>

**Guide:** Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222 [barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)

**9:00 – 11:00 a.m.** From Montreal take Highway 40 west. Take Exit 41. Keep right and bear right at the traffic light. Climb the hill. At the stop sign turn left onto Chemin des Pins and drive 1 km to the parking lot on the left. \$6.00 admission charge for non-Arboretum-members. **Half day.**

**9h00 – 11h00.** De Montréal prendre l'autoroute 40 Ouest, emprunter la sortie 41, garder la droite et tourner à droite au feu de circulation. Monter la côte et au panneau d'arrêt tourner à gauche sur le chemin des Pins et continuer jusqu'au stationnement. Frais d'entrée : 6,00 \$ pour les non-membres. **Demi-journée.**

### **Saturday, May 7 – samedi 7 mai Dundee (La Réserve Nationale de Faune du Lac Saint-François)**

<https://goo.gl/maps/u3ihE>

**Guides:** Sheldon Harvey 450-462-1459 [ve2shw@yahoo.com](mailto:ve2shw@yahoo.com)  
Wayne Grubert 450-458-5498 514-774-0811 Cell (PLEASE use only on morning of trip)  
[wgrubert@hotmail.com](mailto:wgrubert@hotmail.com)

**8:00 a.m.** Meet at the Visitor Centre parking lot. If you are taking the Mercier Bridge from Montreal go (left) east on Highway 132 for 4.5km 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 33km past Sainte-Barbe and Saint-Anicet to Cazaville. Continue another 8 km on Hwy 132 past Cazaville to chemin-de-le-Pointe-Fraser. Turn right on this road and meet at the visitor centre parking lot about 1 km along on the left.

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 \$2.50 and then exit onto Highway 530 and continue as per instructions above.

Allow about 1.5 hours from Montreal. Looking for waterfowl, raptors, and migrating passerines. **Half day.**

**8h00.** Rassemblement dans le stationnement de l'Accueil. 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 pont et continuez environ 33 km, en passant par Sainte-Barbe et Saint-Anicet jusqu'à Cazaville. Continuez encore 8 km sur la route 132 passé Cazaville jusqu'au Chemin-de-la-Pointe-Fraser. Tournez à droite sur cette route et rendez-vous au stationnement du centre d'accueil sur la gauche à environ 1 km.

Un itinéraire alternatif, en particulier depuis l'Ouest de l'Île de Montréal, consiste à prendre l'autoroute 20 ou 40 ouest passée Vaudreuil-Dorion jusqu'à l'autoroute 30. Prenez l'autoroute 30 (frais de 2,50 \$), puis sortez sur l'autoroute 530 et continuez en suivant les instructions données ci-dessus. Prévoir environ 1h à 1h30 de route à partir de la région de Montréal. Espèces recherchées : sauvagine, rapaces, et parulines en migration. **Demi-journée.**

### **Tuesday, May 10 – mardi 10 mai Evening Trip Parc-nature du Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard, Qc**

<https://goo.gl/maps/JFpO4>

**Guides:** Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222 [barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)  
Gay McDougall 514-691-0658 [mcdougallgruner@gmail.com](mailto:mcdougallgruner@gmail.com)

**6:00 p.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 Chevreumont; 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: \$9.00.

**18h00.** 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. Chèvremont 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 : 9,00 \$.

### **Wednesday, May 11 – mercredi 11 mai Parc-nature de l'île-de-la-Visitation**

**Guide:** Joël Coutu 438-930-5092 [fauconbleu65@hotmail.com](mailto:fauconbleu65@hotmail.com)

**7 h 00 à 11 h 00 – 7 h 00 à 11 h 00**

See / Voir page 20.

### **Saturday, May 14 – samedi 14 mai George H. Montgomery Bird Sanctuary, Philipsburg**

<http://goo.gl/UKfm9E> (Sanctuary)

<https://goo.gl/maps/y4UwW> (Location)

**Guide:** Sandy Montgomery 514-212-6208  
[sandy\\_montgomery@sympatico.ca](mailto:sandy_montgomery@sympatico.ca)

**8:00 a.m.** Meet in the parking lot of the former Motel Frontière. From Montreal take the Champlain Bridge, Highway 10 east to exit 22, Highway 35 south to St. Jean to join Highway 133 south to Philipsburg. Now that the motel has been demolished the location is not easy to see from the southbound side of the road so continue towards the border crossing. Immediately before the border buildings take the well-marked U-turn on the left to cross over to the northbound side of the road. Look on your right for the large white sign telling drivers to fasten their seat belts – the entrance to the old motel site and the parking area is immediately beyond it. Note that there are two gravelled entrances – do NOT take the first, it is washed out and impassable; the second entry is excellent. Good choice of trails from long and strenuous to short and easy. Looking for migrating passerines, waterfowl and hawks. **Half day.**

**8h00.** Rassemblement au stationnement d'ancien Motel Frontière. De Montréal, traverser le pont Champlain et continuer sur l'autoroute 10 est. Prendre la sortie 22 et rejoindre l'autoroute 35 sud. Continuer sur celle-ci jusqu'à Saint-Jean. De là continuer sur l'autoroute 133 sud en direction de Philipsburg. Maintenant que le motel a été démoli le stationnement est difficile à voir du côté sud de la route. Donc, continuer vers le poste frontalier. Juste avant les bâtiments des douanes, prendre le bien-marqué demi-tour sur la gauche pour passer sur le côté nord de la route. Chercher le grand panneau blanc indiquant aux conducteurs de boucler leur ceinture de sécurité sur votre droite – l'entrée sur le site du vieux motel et le stationnement est immédiatement au-delà. Bonne variété de sentiers dont les niveaux de difficulté vont de longs et ardues à courts et faciles. Espèces recherchées : passereaux en migration, sauvagine et rapaces diurnes.  
**Demi-journée.**

**Sunday, May 10 – dimanche 15 mai**  
**Parc-nature de l'île-de-la-Visitation**

**7:00 to 11:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 11h00**

**Guide:** Joël Coutu 438-930-5092 [fauconbleu65@hotmail.com](mailto:fauconbleu65@hotmail.com)

See / Voir page 20.

**Wednesday, May 18 – mercredi 18 mai**  
**Parc-nature de l'île-de-la-Visitation**

**7:00 to 11:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 11h00**

**Guide:** Joël Coutu 438-930-5092 [fauconbleu65@hotmail.com](mailto:fauconbleu65@hotmail.com)

See / Voir page 20

**Saturday, May 21 – samedi 21 mai**  
**Refuge Faunique Marguerite-D'Youville, Île Saint-Bernard**

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

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

**7:30 a.m.** Meet at the welcome centre of the Refuge on Île St-Bernard, Châteauguay. From Montreal, take Hwy 138 and cross the Mercier Bridge. Stay right coming off the bridge and take Hwy 138 through Kahnawake into Châteauguay. As you enter Châteauguay, turn right onto St-Francis Blvd. Follow St-Francis all the way to the end where it meets the Châteauguay River at Salaberry Blvd North. Turn right on to Salaberry North. 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 the Refuge. Cross the bridge and continue to Notre-Dame Nord. At the flashing, red light turn right onto Notre-Dame and follow the signs to the Refuge. Cross the small bridge onto Île St-Bernard. The parking area is to the right. Walking trip looking for waterbirds, summer breeding birds, and migrants. The grass paths are usually wet early in the morning so wear appropriate footwear. \$3.00 admission fee will be charged. **Half day.**

**7h30.** Rassemblement à l'accueil du refuge, île Saint-Bernard, Châteauguay. De Montréal, prendre la route 138 et traverser le pont Mercier. A la sortie du pont, garder la droite et continuer sur la 138, passé Kahnawake, jusqu'à Châteauguay. A l'entrée de Châteauguay, tourner à droite sur le boul. St-Francis. Continuer sur celui-ci jusqu'à l'intersection avec le boul. Salaberry Nord, qui longe la rivière Châteauguay. Tourner à droite sur Salaberry nord, passer en-dessous du pont de la voie ferrée et continuer jusqu'à un deuxième pont : il s'agit du pont de la Sauvagine. Tourner à droite juste après avoir passer sous ce pont et accéder à une rampe d'accès au pont. Des indications pour le refuge y sont visibles. Traverser le pont et continuer 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, d'oiseaux nicheurs et de migrateurs. Considérant que les sentiers gazonnés sont généralement humides le matin, il est conseillé de porter des chaussures adéquates. Frais d'entrée de 3.00\$.  
**Demi-journée.**

**Monday, May 23 – lundi 23 mai**  
**Mount Royal Cemetery - Cimetière Mont-Royal, Qc**

<https://goo.gl/maps/kAWiSJGXA1Q2>

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

**7:30 a.m.** Meet at the main gate to the cemetery on *Chemin de la Forêt*, Outremont. Looking for spring migrants. **Half day.**

**7 h 30.** Rassemblement à la porte principale du cimetière sur *le chemin de la Forêt*, à Outremont. Espèces recherchées : passereaux en migration **Demi-journée.**

**Wood Warbler Walk at Summit Woods –**  
**Sortie ornithologique au Boisé Sommet**

**Tuesday, May 24 at 7:00 a.m.**  
**Mardi le 24 mai à 7 h 00**

**Guide:** Jane Cormack 514 578-8249 [cormackjane@gmail.com](mailto:cormackjane@gmail.com)

See / Voir page 20.

**Tuesday, May 24 0150 mardi 24 mai**  
**Hudson – Evening trip**

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

**Guide:** Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222 [barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)

**6:30 p.m.** Meet at Finnegan's Market, 775 Main Road, Hudson Heights. Take Hwy 40 to Exit 22. Turn right onto Côte St-Charles. Drive to its end at T-intersection with Main Road. Turn left. Drive (about 2.5 km) to Finnegan's Market parking lot on left. Looking for rails, woodcock and owls.

**18h30.** Rassemblement au marché Finnegan, 775 Main Road, Hudson Heights. Prendre l'autoroute 40, sortie 22. Tourner à droite sur Côte St-Charles. Suivre cette route jusqu'au bout. Tourner à gauche sur la

rue Main. Poursuivre (2.5 km environ) jusqu'au stationnement du Marché Finnegan, situé à gauche. Espèces recherchées : râles, hiboux et Bécasse d'Amérique.

**Wednesday, May 25 - mercredi 25 mai**  
**Parc-nature de l'île-de-la-Visitation**

**7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m – 7h00 à 11h00**

**Guide:** Joël Coutu 438-930-5092 [fauconbleu65@hotmail.com](mailto:fauconbleu65@hotmail.com)

See / Voir page 20.

**Saturday, May 28 – samedi 28 mai**

*Please note early start of the trip – veuillez noter l'heure du début de la sortie*

**Pin Rigide – Franklin Area**

**Guide:** Frédéric Hareau [fredhareau1@yahoo.ca](mailto:fredhareau1@yahoo.ca)

514-815-8491 (cell phone on the day of the trip only)

<https://goo.gl/maps/6TdriiVZk3S2> (Meeting spot)

**7:00 a.m.** Meet in Ormstown, at Petro Canada gas station–Tim Hortons, crossroads of Hwy 201 and Hwy 138. From Montreal take the Mercier Bridge and follow Hwy 138 to Ormstown. From the West Island take Hwy 40 –20 west then take highway 30 (toll). Take 530 toward Salaberry de Valleyfield. Take exit 9 from 530. Turn left onto Boulevard Pie–XII. Continue onto Pont St. and onto Rang du 40. Turn right on 138 west, following signs for Ormstown. Turn left on Hwy 201 in Ormstown. Petro Canada Station is located a few hundred meters on the right. This trip will explore some back roads in southern Quebec in the Pin Rigide Reserve– Franklin areas. Looking for birds of the forests, open country, and wetlands, Possible species include specialty birds from southern Quebec, including Field Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Black-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-throated vireo and more passerines. **Half day.**

**7h00.** Rassemblement à Ormstown, à la station Pétro Canada – Tim Hortons au croisement des routes 201 et 138. De Montréal, prendre le

pont Mercier. Tourner à gauche sur la route 138 jusqu'à Ormstown. De l'Ouest-de-l'Île de Montréal, prendre l'autoroute 40-20 direction ouest puis l'autoroute 30 (péage). Prendre l'autoroute 530 en direction de Salaberry de Valleyfield. Prendre la sortie 9, puis tourner à gauche sur la route Pie XII. Continuer sur la Route du Pont puis sur le Rang du 40. Tournez à droite sur la route 138 et suivez les directions vers Ormstown. A Ormstown, prendre la route 201 vers le sud, sur quelques centaines de mètres jusqu'à la station Pétro Canada. Cette excursion permettra d'explorer certaines routes secondaires du Sud du Québec, dans la région de la réserve de Pin rigide et de Franklin. À la recherche d'oiseaux typiques du sud du Québec dans les habitats forestiers, espaces ouverts et zones humides. Parmi les espèces susceptibles d'être rencontrées, notons le Bruant des champs, le Coulicou à bec noir, le Tohi à flancs roux, et le Viréo à Gorge jaune ainsi que d'autres passereaux plus communs. **Demi-journée.**

### **Wood Warbler Walk at Summit Woods – Sortie ornithologique au Boisé Sommet**

**Tuesday, May 31 at 7:00 a.m.**  
**Mardi le 31 mai à 7 h 00**

**Guide:** Jane Cormack 514 578-8249 [cormackjane@gmail.com](mailto:cormackjane@gmail.com)

See / Voir page 20.

### **Saturday, June 4 – samedi 4 juin Alfred Kelly Nature Reserve at Prévost/Piedmont**

<http://goo.gl/nzhUq>

**Guide:** TBA

**8:00 a.m.** Meet at La Gare de Prévost which is located at 1272, rue de la Traverse, Prévost. Take Autoroute 15 north in the direction of St-Jerome; take the right fork in St-Jerome on Autoroute des Laurentides Ouest which in 2 km becomes Boulevard du Curé-Labelle/QC-117 N; in about another 7 km in Prévost turn right on Rue de la Station (signed for Saint-Hippolyte) and you will find the station in less than 100 metres. Looking for raptors (hopefully Peregrine Falcons), warblers and

other Laurentian Forest species in the new Alfred Kelly Nature Reserve which you have read about in recent editions of The Song Sparrow newsletter. **Half day.**

**8h00.** Rassemblement à la gare de Prévost, qui est située au 1272, rue de la Traverse, Prévost.. Prendre l'autoroute 15 Nord en direction de St-Jérôme. A la bifurcation de St-Jérôme, prendre la voie de droite sur l'autoroute des Laurentides Ouest qui, après 2 km, devient le Boulevard Curé-Labelle/QC-117 N; après 7 km, tourner à droite dans Prévost sur la Rue de la Station (direction Saint-Hippolyte), la gare est située à moins de 100 mètres. À la recherche des oiseaux de proie (avec optimisme le faucon pèlerin), des parulines et autres espèces de la forêt laurentienne dans la nouvelle réserve naturelle Alfred Kelly, qui a récemment fait l'objet d'articles dans le bulletin Songsparrow. **Demi-journée.**

### **Saturday, June 11 – samedi 11 juin Spontaneous Late Spring Outing – Location to be determined Sortie spontanée de Fin de printemps - Lieu à déterminer**

**Guide:** To Be Announced/ À déterminer

Complete details of the field trip, including the Guide, the destination, the start time, the meeting spot and the duration, will be posted on the BPQ website and on the Songsparrow e-mail forum two or three days in advance of the Saturday outing.

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, June 18 – samedi 18 juin**  
**Southwestern Quebec - Early Solstice Trip -- Sud-ouest**  
**du Québec - Excursion du solstice d'été**

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

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

Wayne Grubert 450-458-5498 [wgrubert@hotmail.com](mailto:wgrubert@hotmail.com)

Cell (PLEASE use only on morning of trip) 514-774-0811

**Note exceptional start time!**

**5:15 a.m.** Meet on 3ème rang, just off Hwy 201. From Montreal take the Mercier Bridge and follow Hwy 138 to Ormstown. Turn left on Hwy 201 to 3ème Rang (called Rang de Tullochgorum on opposite side of 201). Turn right on 3ème Rang and wait there for the group. From the West Island take Hwy 40 -20 west then take highway 30 (toll). Take 530 toward Salaberry de Valleyfield. Take exit 9 from 530. Turn left onto Boulevard Pie-XII. Continue onto Pont St. and onto Rang du 40. Turn right on 138 west, following signs for Ormstown. Turn left on Hwy 201 to 3ème Rang (called Rang de Tullochgorum on opposite side of 201). Turn right on 3ème Rang and wait there for the group. This is a driving trip; carpooling is recommended. This trip will explore some of the roads of southwestern Quebec in the Ormstown-Huntingdon area. We are starting early because some of the roads are busy and parking can be difficult. Looking for birds of the forests and of open country. Possible species include Yellow-throated Vireo, Golden-winged Warbler, Field Sparrow, Eastern Bluebird as well as more common passerines. **Half day.** There is a possibility of continuing into the early afternoon.

**5h15.** Rassemblement le long du 3ème rang. De Montréal, prendre le pont Mercier. Tourner à gauche sur la route 138 jusqu'à Ormstown. Tourner à gauche sur la route 201 et continuer jusqu'à l'intersection avec le 3ème rang (indiqué rang Tullochgorum de l'autre côté). Tourner à droite sur le 3ème rang et y attendre le reste du groupe. De l'Ouest-de-l'île de Montréal, prendre l'autoroute 40-20 direction

ouest puis l'autoroute 30 (péage). Prendre l'autoroute 530 en direction de Salaberry de Valleyfield. Prendre la sortie 9, puis tourner à gauche sur la route Pie XII. Continuer sur la Route du Pont puis sur le Rang du 40. Tourner à droite sur la route 138 et suivre les directions vers Ormstown. Tourner à gauche sur la route 201 et continuer jusqu'à l'intersection avec le 3ème rang (indiqué rang Tullochgorum de l'autre côté). Tourner à droite sur le 3ème rang et y attendre le reste du groupe. Les déplacements se feront principalement en voiture. Le covoiturage est recommandé. Cette excursion permettra d'explorer certaines routes du Sud-Ouest du Québec, dans la région de Ormstown et Huntingdon. L'excursion débute tôt car certaines routes sont très achalandées et il peut être difficile d'y trouver un stationnement. À la recherche d'oiseaux forestiers et d'oiseaux d'espaces ouverts. Parmi les espèces susceptibles d'être rencontrées, notons le Viréo à gorge jaune, la Paruline à ailes dorées, le Bruant des champs, le Merlebleu de l'Est ainsi que d'autres passereaux plus communs. **Demi-journée,** avec possibilité de poursuivre jusqu'en début d'après-midi.



Eastern Phoebe © Chuck Kling 2015



## BPQ Birding Calendar April through June 2016

Full details are on our Web site at: [www.birdprotectionquebec.org](http://www.birdprotectionquebec.org)

**Saturday, April 16 - samedi 16 avril**

**Baie-du-Febvre**

<https://goo.gl/maps/VTO2X>

Guides: Jean Demers and Clémence Soulard  
514-694-8240

[jd030824@gmail.com](mailto:jd030824@gmail.com)

8:30 a.m. All day. – 8h30. Toute la journée.

**Thursday 21 April - jeudi 21 avril**

**Birding for Beginners - Morgan Arboretum**

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

<http://www.morganarboretum.org/>

Guide: Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222

[barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. – 9h00 - 11h00.

**Saturday, April 23 - samedi 23 avril**

**Parc-nature du Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard**

<https://goo.gl/maps/JFpO4>

Guide: Mathias Mutzl 514-298-7090

[mathias.mutzl@gmail.com](mailto:mathias.mutzl@gmail.com)

8:00 a.m. Half day. – 8h00. . Demi-journée.

**Thursday, April 28 – jeudi 28 avril**

**Parc-nature du Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard**

**Birding for Beginners – Observation des oiseaux pour débutants**

<https://goo.gl/maps/JFpO4>

Guide: Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222

[barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)

9:00 a.m. - noon. – 9h00 - 12h00.

**Tuesday, April 26 – mardi 26 avril**

**Wood Warbler Walks at Summit Woods –  
Sorties ornithologiques au Boisé Sommet**

Meet at the Summit Circle Lookout –  
Rassemblement au Bélvédère de Summit Circle  
Guide: Jane Cormack 514 578-8249

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

7:00 to 9:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 9h00

**Saturday, April 30- samedi 30 avril**

**Laval Cemetery and Tylee Marsh / Le  
Cimetière de Laval et Le Marais Tylee**

<https://goo.gl/maps/7mRBHT4qE5L2>

<https://goo.gl/maps/4NxJ1mBcwsG2>

Guide: Sheldon Harvey 450-462-1459

[ve2shw@yahoo.com](mailto:ve2shw@yahoo.com)

<http://www.cimetierelaval.com/en/maps-and-directions/>

8:00 a.m. Half day. – 8h00. : Demi journée.

**Wood Warbler Walks at Summit Woods –  
Sorties ornithologiques au Boisé Sommet**

Meet at the Summit Circle Lookout –  
Rassemblement au Bélvédère de Summit Circle  
Tuesday, May 3 – mardi 3 mai  
Guide: Jane Cormack 514 578-8249

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

7:00 to 9:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 9h00

**Thursday, May 5- jeudi 5 mai**

**Morgan Arboretum**

Birding for Beginners / Observation des oiseaux  
pour débutants-

Guide: Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222

[barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. – 9 h 00 - 11 h 00

**Saturday, May 7 - samedi 7 mai**

**Dundee(La Réserve Nationale de Faune du  
Lac Saint-François)**

Guides: Sheldon Harvey 450-462-1459

[ve2shw@yahoo.com](mailto:ve2shw@yahoo.com)

Wayne Grubert: 450-458-5498 514-774-0811

Cell (Please use only on morning of trip)

[wgrubert@hotmail.com](mailto:wgrubert@hotmail.com)

8:00 a.m. – 8 h 00

**Tuesday, May 10 – mardi 10 mai**

**Wood Warbler Walks at Summit Woods –  
Sorties ornithologiques au Boisé Sommet**

Meet at the Summit Circle Lookout –  
Rassemblement au Bélvédère de Summit Circle  
Guide: Jane Cormack 514 578-8249

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

7:00 to 9:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 9h00

**Tuesday, May 10 - mardi 10 mai Parc-nature  
du Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard**

**Evening Trip – Sortie de soirée**

<https://goo.gl/maps/JFpO4>

Guides: Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222

[barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)

Gay McDougall 514-691-0658

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

6:00 p.m. – 18 h 00

**Wednesday, May 11 - mercredi 11 mai**

**Parc-nature de l'Île-de-la-Visitation**

7:00 to 11:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 11h00

Guide: Joël Coutu 438-930-5092

[fauconbleu65@hotmail.com](mailto:fauconbleu65@hotmail.com)

**Saturday, May 14 - samedi 14 mai**  
**George H. Montgomery Bird Sanctuary,**  
**Philipsburg**

Guide: Sandy Montgomery 514-212-6208  
[sandy\\_montgomery@sympatico.ca](mailto:sandy_montgomery@sympatico.ca)  
8:00 a.m. – 8 h 00

**Sunday, May 15 - dimanche 15 mai**  
**Parc-nature de l'île-de-la-Visitation**

7:00 to 11:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 11h00  
Guide: Joël Coutu 438-930-5092  
[fauconbleu65@hotmail.com](mailto:fauconbleu65@hotmail.com)

**Tuesday, May 17 – mardi 17 mai**  
**Wood Warbler Walks at Summit Woods –**  
**Sorties ornithologiques au Boisé Sommet**

Meet at the Summit Circle Lookout –  
Rassemblement au Bélvédère de Summit Circle  
Guide: Jane Cormack 514 578-8249  
[cormackjane@gmail.com](mailto:cormackjane@gmail.com)  
7:00 to 9:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 9h00

**Wednesday, May 18 - mercredi 18 mai**  
**Parc-nature de l'île-de-la-Visitation**

7:00 to 11:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 11h00  
Guide: Joël Coutu 438-930-5092  
[fauconbleu65@hotmail.com](mailto:fauconbleu65@hotmail.com)

**Saturday, May 21 – samedi 21 mai**  
**Refuge Faunique Marguerite-D'Youville, Île**  
**Saint-Bernard**

<https://goo.gl/maps/g5spD>  
Guide: Tom Long 450-692-1590  
[cardinalis.1997@gmail.com](mailto:cardinalis.1997@gmail.com)  
7:30 a.m. – 7 h 30

**Monday, May 23 – lundi 23 mai**  
**Mount Royal Cemetery - Cimetière Mont-**  
**Royal** <https://goo.gl/maps/kAWiSJGXA1Q2>

Guides: Darlene and Sheldon Harvey  
450-462-1459 [ve2shw@yahoo.com](mailto:ve2shw@yahoo.com)  
7:30 a.m. – 7 h 30

**Tuesday, May 24 – mardi 24 mai**  
**Wood Warbler Walks at Summit Woods –**  
**Sorties ornithologiques au Boisé Sommet**

Meet at the Summit Circle Lookout –  
Rassemblement au Bélvédère de Summit Circle  
Guide: Jane Cormack 514 578-8249  
[cormackjane@gmail.com](mailto:cormackjane@gmail.com)  
7:00 to 9:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 9h00

**Tuesday, May 24 - mardi 24 mai**  
**Hudson – Evening trip**

<https://goo.gl/maps/fMLfj>  
Guide: Barbara MacDuff 514-457-2222  
[barb.macduff@sympatico.ca](mailto:barb.macduff@sympatico.ca)  
6:30 p.m. Meet at Finnegan's Market  
18 h 30 Rassemblement au marché Finnegan

**Wednesday 25 May- mercredi 25 mai**  
**Parc-nature de l'île-de-la-Visitation**

7:00 to 11:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 11h00  
Guide: Joël Coutu 438-930-5092  
[fauconbleu65@hotmail.com](mailto:fauconbleu65@hotmail.com)

**Saturday 28 May - Samedi 28 mai**  
**Pin Rigide – Franklin Area**

Guide: Frédéric Hareau fredhareau1@yahoo.ca  
514-815-8491 (cell phone on the day of the trip  
only)  
<https://goo.gl/maps/6TdriiVZk3S2> (Meeting  
spot)  
Please note early start of the trip – veuillez noter  
l'heure du début de la sortie  
7:00 a.m. Meet in Ormstown, at Petro Canada  
gas station-Tim Hortons, crossroads of Hwy 201  
and Hwy 138  
7 h 00. Rassemblement à Ormstown, à la station  
Péto Canada – Tim Hortons au croisement des  
routes 201 et 138.

**Tuesday, May 24 – mardi 24 mai**  
**Wood Warbler Walks at Summit Woods –**  
**Sorties ornithologiques au Boisé Sommet**

Meet at the Summit Circle Lookout –  
Rassemblement au Bélvédère de Summit Circle  
Guide: Jane Cormack 514 578-8249  
[cormackjane@gmail.com](mailto:cormackjane@gmail.com)  
7:00 to 9:00 a.m. – 7h00 à 9h00

**Saturday, June 4 – samedi 4 juin**  
**Alfred Kelly Nature Reserve at Prévost/**  
**Piedmont**

<http://goo.gl/nzhUq>  
Guide: TBA  
8:00 a.m. Meet at La Gare de Prévost which is  
located at 1272, rue de la Traverse, Prévost.  
8 h 00 Rassemblement à la gare de Prévost, qui  
est située au 1272, rue de la Traverse, Prévost.

**Saturday, June 11 - samedi 11 juin**  
**Spontaneous Late Spring Outing – Location**  
**to be determined**  
**Sortie spontanée de Fin de printemps - Lieu à**  
**déterminer**

Guide: To Be Announced/ À déterminer

**Saturday, June 18 - samedi 18 juin**

Southwestern Quebec - Early Solstice Trip --  
Sud-ouest du Québec - Excursion du solstice  
d'été

<https://goo.gl/maps/kSBvY>  
Guides: Sheldon Harvey 450-462-1459  
[ve2shw@yahoo.com](mailto:ve2shw@yahoo.com)  
Wayne Grubert 450-458-5498  
[wgrubert@hotmail.com](mailto:wgrubert@hotmail.com)  
Cell (Please use only on morning of trip)  
514-774-0811

Note exceptional start time!

**5:15 a.m.** Meet on 3ème rang, just off Hwy 201.  
**5 h 15 :** Rassemblement le long du 3ème rang.