



Christmas Bird Counts

Christmas Bird Count for Kids (cbc4kids) 2016

Text and photo by Jay Thibert

Bird Studies Canada describes the cbc4kids as, "... a fun, family-friendly birdwatching event that promotes nature appreciation and environmental stewardship." The November 26, 2016 cbc4kids presented by North Durham Nature and the Friends of Nonquon was all of this and much more.

The event was held on Saturday, November 26 at the Nonquon Environmental Education Centre. By nine a.m. the sun was beginning to shine and there were 39 children and dozens of parent helpers assembled to learn bird identification skills and explore the trails of the Nonquon wetlands. These young citizen scientists were divided into six flocks and under the wings of dedicated volunteers were able to spot 20 different species and a total of 435 birds.

Christmas bird counts for kids began in the Sonoma Valley, California in 2007 and



migrated to Canada in 2010. This year was our 5th count and Bird Studies Canada reported close to 50 kid counts across the country. We are very pleased to be part of this expanding trend!

At the end of our count we assemble in a large circle to share our discoveries. A young birder from each group read out the details to an attentive audience. The sound of Sandhill Cranes turned all eyes skyward. There they were, a flock of about 130, heading south for a warmer winter. The spectacle was inspiring for the many eyes and ears that took it all in. James Kamstra explained that this species was increasing in numbers and was a real success story. His words mirrored our thoughts about the day, having spent time with these young enthusiastic birders. A big thank you to the volunteers from North Durham Nature and Friends of Nonquon that made this day happen: Cara Gregory, James Kamstra, Cathy Galberg, Bev Thibert, Greg Moon, Mark Stabb, Don Farquharson and Jay Thibert.

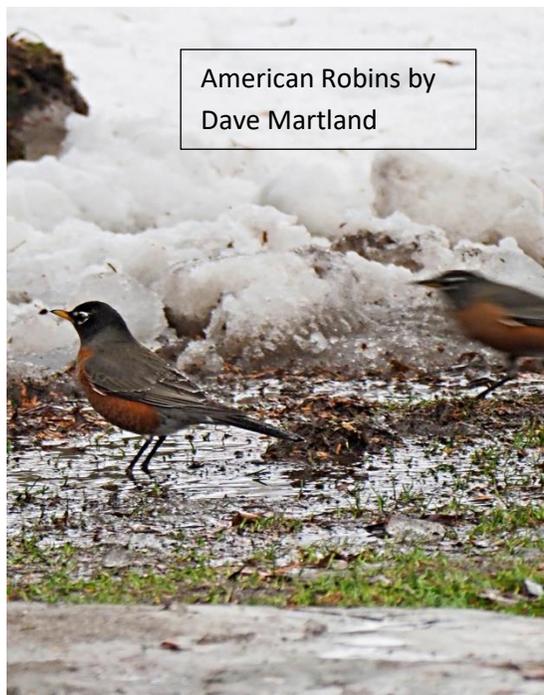
More on Christmas Bird Counts

NDN runs two other Christmas Bird Counts each December. Derek Connelly coordinates the Uxbridge one and John McLean the Beaverton one. Here is a summary of the results of the two counts. Visit our website for more analysis and all the details and insights.

Uxbridge Christmas Bird Count – December 27

On Tuesday Dec 27th Uxbridge held its twelfth official Audubon Christmas bird count where 44 bird species and 7913 individual birds were counted by 18 feeder watchers and 30 field birders covering 836 kilometers of roads and 55 kilometres of trails. Unusual high counts of robins (698)

and starlings (1536), some lingering “summer birds” (i.e. a lone Hermit Thrush, 2 or 3 Eastern Bluebird families and count week feeder birds (Common Grackles, a Rusty blackbird and an Eastern Towhee) may indicate overall warmer weather despite the deeper snow cover and frozen lakes. Overall our species number (44) however was down from last year (49) as was our individual bird count of 7913 from 9134 individuals. The overnight freeze before the count day left no standing water for the water birds and the Canada Goose count was down by 2100. As predicted by Pittaway’s Finch Forecast many finches were absent (Redpoll, Pine Siskin, Crossbills) and the predicted influx of some Purple finches and lots of Blue Jays held true.



42nd Annual Beaverton Christmas Bird Count – December 30

December 30th was a cold, windy and clear day following a period of warm cloudy weather with periods of snow. Birds which

were abundant in the days preceding the count, diminished in number and areas of open water similarly decreased. However, 23 field observers and 16 feeder watchers did their best to count 42 species on count day and just 5200 individual birds. Both numbers are below average for 40 plus years of counting and significantly below averages for the last 10 years. After 40 years of experience, you understand that conditions on the day influence what is seen and counted, yet you can still enjoy the challenge of the hunt. At the same time, one can never cease to enjoy watching soaring Eagles and Ravens and frolicking flocks of Snow Buntings.

Count week birds, seen 3 days before and after, give a good indication of those species that might have been seen on count day. For the Beaverton Count, these included some exceptional birds such as Red-winged Blackbird, Rusty Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Snowy Owl and Ring-billed Gull.

We had a few very good observations on Count Day. The only new species added was a family of Tundra Swans (2 adults and two immatures) bringing our all-time total species list to 107. Record numbers of Red-bellied Woodpeckers, White-breasted Nuthatch, Dark-eyed Juncos and Brown Creepers were seen. Large numbers of American Robins were a pleasant surprise although their numbers were greatly diminished from days previous. Open water on Lake Simcoe was reduced to a small patch east of Duclos Point but still yielded Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Common Goldeneye, Great Black-backed and Herring Gulls, the Tundra Swans and the increasingly present Bald Eagles. It is always a bonus when some portion of the lake is open.

See last page of the newsletter and our website for more info and statistics.

Scugog Shores Heritage Centre Photo Contest Winners - Update!

In the last newsletter I included information about some of the winners in the Scugog Shores Heritage Museum photo contest but inadvertently missed one of the top 30 winners. Please accept my sincere apologies .. so here's Michael Taylor's winning Wood Duck photo!



Local News

NDN Kids at the Ontario Youth Summit

This fall we sent two young students, Hayden DeBarros and Rylee Brown to the Ontario Nature Youth Summit, where they were engaged in interactive workshops and activities on topics including food security, endangered species, medicinal plants, sustainability and much more. A youth leadership forum, wonderful opportunities to explore Lake Couchiching, hiking, early-morning canoeing and campfires ensured a

fulsome experience was enjoyed. We heard from Rylee in the last newsletter, so now here's Hayden's story.

My name is Hayden DeBarros and I'm 15, I live in Uxbridge and I go to Uxbridge Secondary School. My interests mostly revolve around animals and nature, especially seeing how I have 20 some odd pets including Ball Pythons and Leopard Geckos. Last November I did a talk for North Durham Nature Club on reptiles and amphibians of Ontario, where I brought three of my pets: Flik my first Leopard Gecko, Isabella my longest python at 5 1/2 feet, and my three-legged toad named Toad. About a year after doing the speech I was offered the chance to go to the 2016 Ontario Nature Youth Summit and I jumped at the chance. When I arrived on Friday to the youth summit I arrived about 2 hours early, so I and some of the other kids that were there started playing a few games. Once all the kids arrived we were all assigned our rooms and ate dinner. After dinner we played a HUGE game of name alliteration where we saw the local fox which went

by many names including Todd and Fantastic Mr. Fox. Around 7:00 p.m. we watched a great presentation set in Scales Nature Park about reptiles. On Saturday morning we went on a nature walk from about 7-8:30. After breakfast we had our first workshop,



where we found 20 salamanders, mostly Red-backed Salamanders and a Praying Mantis. My next workshop was freshwater life in which we mostly waded in about waste deep water and caught aquatic life such as small fish and small invertebrates. The highlight of which was catching a baby snapping turtle. My third and final workshop of the day was medicinal plants of Ontario which as the name suggests we learned the many medicinal plants of Ontario. We also learned how to make a natural salve that helps with joint pain: the recipe is 3 litres of extra virgin olive oil, half a pound of bee's wax and as much plantain and comfrey as you can get your hands on. After short 10 minute snack break, we went back to Copland Hall to work with our groups on our action plan. We then had dinner and went on to do the great group challenge, which was a huge 5 team "capture the flag game". Around 8:30 p.m. we all went to a spot called the grotto where we had a big bonfire and heard very funny and interesting stories. The next morning, I slept in and missed the morning activities and half of breakfast. My first workshop was Let's Get Wild. In this workshop, we got to see many interesting predatory birds, including a Great Horned Owl and a Broad-winged Hawk. Later around 11:00 I had my final workshop of the trip, Primitive Living and Survival Skills. In this workshop we learned how to make fire using a bow drill and many other primitive methods. After lunch we went back to Copland Hall for the last time to see a very good presentation on ways to make positive change by Matt Todd. And with the end of the presentation came the end of the 2016 Youth Summit. What a great adventure for me. Thank-you North Durham Nature and Ontario Nature for the opportunity!

North Durham Nature joins forces with The Friends of Nonquon!

by Mark Stabb

Wild, extensive, and surprisingly accessible, the Nonquon Provincial Wildlife Area north of Port Perry is one of North Durham's great wonders of nature. Embedded in the heart of this 1300 ha. wetland landscape is the Nonquon Environmental Education Centre, owned and operated by the Durham District School Board. Every year thousands of students pour out of Board buses from all over Durham Region and get immersed, sometimes for the first time, in first-hand learning about ecology and nature. In many ways the Education Centre, with its network of friends and educators, *is* the heart of Nonquon.

Students from our local Brock, Scugog and Uxbridge Townships are regulars at the centre, and many form lasting bonds with the place. Fortunately, over the years, a collection of retired teachers, nature lovers and Board staff found ways to open the Nonquon to the public through the development of trails, boardwalks and visitor programs. In 2012, this forward-thinking group became The Friends of Nonquon, a non-profit group dedicated to caring for the Nonquon and sharing it with others, young and old alike. Through wetland walks, nature trail development, fund-raising and special events, the Friends have helped transform the Nonquon into a truly public asset and a beacon for local people looking to enjoy and learn about nature.

When North Durham Nature formed in 2013, several of the founders were already members of The Friends of Nonquon, ready to share their beloved natural area with more people and to help build the network

of naturalists in North Durham. The two groups began promoting each other's events and activities and, quite naturally, started planning activities together, particularly activities at Nonquon aimed at young people and families. The most recent was the highly successful Christmas Bird Count for Kids (see article page 1). This natural evolution has continued and this year the two groups decided to merge. Programs of The Friends of Nonquon are now officially programs of North Durham Nature. Among other benefits, the merging provides important insurance coverage for "Friends" programs – so important in helping build confidence and trust amongst those participating.

The Board of North Durham Nature is sincerely proud and honoured to have the programs of The Friends of Nonquon under our growing umbrella of nature walks, talks and events. The Friends of Nonquon offer a wonderful window on wetlands ecology in North Durham. We are indeed fortunate to have such a special place and such committed natural history educators in our midst.

North Durham Nature helps Uxbridge's new Countryside Preserve Map.

by Derek Connelly

As part of a Healthy Kids Community Challenge Grant from the Ontario government the Township of Uxbridge has decided to create a new brochure map of the Countryside Preserve with Chrismar mapping. The idea is to encourage families to get outside and explore the Countryside Preserve. Part of the map will include three nature trail loops (Frog, Butterfly and Bird) using existing trails. NDN volunteered to assist the Town with planning the route, the natural history text and providing photographs. The Township has offered

NDN some compensation for the work along with recognition on the map brochure. The map will go on sale in 2017, watch for it in local stores.

“Celebration of Nature Art Event” November 20, 2016

by James Kamstra

Instead of the usual monthly club meeting on the fourth Thursday, the November meeting of NDN was a special treat. Local nature artists were invited to show some of their works at the Uxbridge Seniors Centre on a dreary November Sunday afternoon. All members as well as the general public were invited to come out and appreciate



how local talent presented natural subjects.

The artists made a great showing with 10 participating. Ornithologist Ross James showed life-sized cut out bird in flight paintings and some framed ink sketches of



birds. Heather Hill exhibited home-made nature jewellery. Ryan Lamoureux impressed us with his detailed bird paintings, Nancy Chalut presented enormous images of animal eyes, a hatching egg, and a crane whose identity was debated. Hanneke Koonstra set up a stand with a variety of paintings of birds, butterflies and landscapes; some realistic and others slightly impressionistic. Tamara Williamson showed three works of art. I found humour in her life-sized black squirrel on a wide canvas with a lot of blank space and a single acorn on the opposite end. Jay Thibert, Geoff Carpentier, Pat Asling and Coral Benton made us jealous with their excellent bird and landscape photographs. The mood of the afternoon was tranquil, surrounded by depictions of wild places and wild animals, while the air was filled with the serene sounds of cellos and violins of North Durham Strings (Kathy Carothers, Ann Balmer and Tom McGrail).

As part of Celebration of Nature Art, NDN held an art contest for children with a prize of art supplies from Meta4 art studio in Port Perry and a nature artist book from Blue Heron books in Uxbridge. Four works were submitted and the winner was McKenna Docherty of Scugog.

It was an enjoyable afternoon for those who came out.

Secret Garden

Crows Pass Conservation Area

Text and photos by James Kamstra

Crows Pass Conservation Area is a secret place and you may have trouble finding it. Although a conservation area administered by the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA), there are no signs to direct you there and no easy road access. If you do find it, Crows Pass is well worth the visit for it is a little gem. It is situated in the southwest corner of Scugog Township.



The only real access is from Middle March Road. You can park at the corner of Middle March Road and Woodbine Circle (1.5 km west of Ashburn Road). From there walk westward along the Middle March Road allowance for approximately 300 m across a fairway of Oakridge Golf Course (it's okay, this is a public road allowance, just watch for flying golf balls) to a small parking area and gate. Here you will find a sign telling you that you have arrived.

Crows Pass is a relatively new conservation area, established in 2003. The property was formerly owned by Easter Seals who ran a youth camp here until the late 1980s. The camp was long abandoned with dilapidated buildings by the time CLOCA acquired it. Purchasing this parcel was jointly funded by CLOCA, Scugog Township, Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation and Durham Region. The property consists of 84 hectares (210 acres) of undulating terrain characteristic of the Oak Ridges Moraine. It lies on the watershed divide between the Lynde Creek watershed to the south and the Nonquon River watershed to the north, but there are no creeks on the property. Most of the site is covered with a mature deciduous forest co-dominated by Sugar



Maple, Red Oak and White Ash with a number of other species mixed in. Open meadow once covered about a third of the property but through natural succession, much of it is in a transitional stage to thicket, young woodland with some pine plantation.



Perhaps the most interesting natural features to be found are the seven kettle pond wetlands. Kettles were formed during glacial retreat, where huge blocks of ice broke off and got buried among the other debris dropped by the glaciers. The ice melted forming depressions that filled with water forming ponds or wetlands. The kettle ponds now support abundant habitat for breeding amphibians. Spring Peepers which can be deafening in April, are replaced by the more melodic Gray Treefrogs in May. Spotted and Blue-spotted Salamanders come to lay their eggs in the kettles then move to the surrounding forest to spend most the year. Eastern Newts also thrive here. The two kettles along the north boundary of Crows Pass are partially shaded by hemlocks that support a diverse flora more typical of further north. Several regionally rare plants can be observed such as Mountain Holly, Wild Raisin, Indian Cucumber-root and American Mountain Ash.

Many birds can be observed at Crows Pass, particularly in the breeding season. Blue-winged Warblers, Eastern Towhees and Indigo Buntings sing and sally among the thickets. The forests support many area sensitive breeding birds such as Pileated Woodpecker, Scarlet Tanager and



Ovenbird. Wood Ducks nest in tree cavities in the forest and then lead their young to the kettle ponds soon after hatching. The remaining fields as well as kettles support a good variety of butterflies and dragonflies in summer.

Crows Pass CA has 3 km of hiking trails which are well marked and maintained. The Crows Pass Loop Trail takes you through a sample of all habitats. In addition, the Oak Ridges Trail (which traverses the entire moraine) follows the north boundary. Any time of year is worth a visit, particularly in autumn when the foliage is in its glory.

Jamie Davidson, Conservation Areas Planner with CLOCA said that there are no plans to improve the access or public profile of Crows Pass since one of the mandates is to protect the wildlife and environmental features here. But this conservation area is free and open to the public. You just have to know it is there.

A brochure on Crows Pass CA can be found on-line. It provides a brief description and a map of trails on an aerial photograph base. Find it at:

http://cloca.ca/con_areas/CA%20brochures/brochure_crowspass.pdf

Kid's Corner

Text and photos by Cara Gregory

Winter officially started on December 21st, 2016, the Winter Solstice, even though it started to feel like winter a couple of weeks earlier. Cold temperatures, heavy snowfall, clearing off cars, shovelling driveways, ploughing and salting of roads, lighting of fireplaces, turning up the furnace, pulling out and putting on our warmer clothing; all signs that winter is upon us.

Migration and Hibernation

Animals have to deal with the coming of winter's cold temperatures and deep snow too, but don't have the advantage of a warm building to live in or heated transportation to move around in, so they must make some life altering choices for survival in the winter months! A number

Eastern Cottontail



or birds will decide to leave in the fall to places further south that are warmer and where food is more easily found! Many animals which stay for the winter eat more food in the fall to gain fat to help them through the winter or grow more fur or feathers to keep warm. Some change their

diet. Reptiles and amphibians will hibernate for the winter, so in the fall before the water and the ground freezes, turtles and many frogs will bury themselves in the mud in the pond. Treefrogs, toads and salamanders will bury themselves in the leaf litter and under logs on the forest floor. A few frogs, like the wood frog, have the ability to freeze during the winter and then thaw out in the spring without damaging their skin! Snakes will gather together in large numbers in an underground den site called a “hibernaculum”. Animals like bears, skunks and racoons will prepare and head into their winter dens where they will eventually fall into their deep winter sleep, called “torpor”.

Embrace the Winter Outdoors in Nature

Often the winter months are a time when many of us head indoors and gather around our fireplaces with a warm drink, performing our own form of “hibernation”. This winter, don’t let the snow and cold temperatures keep you indoors. If you dress warmly for the weather and get outside into nature, you will find that there is a lot to be enjoyed and animal activity to be observed! You will also be overwhelmed by its beauty. The fresh white colour of the untouched snow in the forest provides a beautiful backdrop to the red bark of the dogwood, and a sparkling decoration on the bare branches of the deciduous trees on a sunny day.

Animal Tracking

The winter is a great time to look for and interpret the footprints in the snow left by the local wildlife! All you need to bring with you is a ruler, a keen eye and a

tracking guide. A good guide for children first learning to track is “*Tracks, Scats, and Signs*” by Leslie Dendy and a small pocket guide entitled “*Lone Pine Field Guide: Animal Tracks of Ontario*” by Ian Sheldon, which has a little ruler on the back cover. Simple identifying features to look for when observing a track is the size of the track (length and width) and the distance between each track. Questions to ask yourself that are helpful in track



identification are: how are the pads in the print arranged? Are there any fur imprint or claw marks visible? Is it a hoof-shaped track? Is there a visible tail dragging imprint? As you get more practiced at looking at tracks, you can determine how they were moving (e.g. walking, running, hopping).

It can be fun to follow a set of tracks and see where they lead to. They may cross the path of another set of tracks of an animal they interacted with or lead to a feeding location, den or tree they climbed. If they lead to a den, make sure to give the animal plenty of space by staying a good distance away. Many animals live in the subnivean zone and make tunnels in the snow, like a vole or mole. You can search for the entrance to their tunnels. Tiny tracks you find in the snow may lead there! The more

you practice, the better you will be at identifying and interpreting the tracks. Hopefully you will head outdoors with your family and friends this winter and find a new appreciation for the season and all that it has to offer!

Kudos

Following the story of the Nonquon lagoons and the high-tension wires installed there this past summer, Durham region hired a consultant to see if the impacts to wildlife would be significant and harmful. The study revealed that they would not but encouraged the region to install markers on the wires to make them more visible to birds and to install a nesting platform for Osprey. Durham is considering these opportunities. Thanks to Durham for listening and acting on our concerns!

Outings

. Lake Simcoe Field Trip – November 6, 2016

Text and photo by James Kamstra

Late autumn is a time of year when the waterfowl migrate through and often congregate on the larger lakes. James Kamstra of North Durham Nature led a group of 12 to the southeast area of Lake Simcoe to see what waterbirds could be found. Twelve eager participants ventured out on this mild and calm sunny day.

The first stop was Holme's Point, on the York Region side of the lake. Telescopes are essential for waterfowl viewing for most of the birds are well offshore and we were lucky enough to have three scopes. There were birds alright, in a sheltered bay on the east side of Duclos Point, 3 Tundra Swans swam together and a solitary Red-necked Grebe was swimming and diving.

It had donned its winter plumage but still sported a hint of reddishness on its neck. A gathering of Bonaparte's Gulls were having a feeding frenzy. Suddenly a Merlin came zipping along from the water, hot in pursuit of an unknown passerine. It disappeared through a tall willow and the passerine got away.

Most of the Lake Simcoe shoreline is lined with private residences so there are not a lot of spots where one can scan the lake for waterbirds. We found a parkette midway between Holm's Point and Port Bolster which gave us access to the waterfront. Not too many birds nearshore but there was plenty further out. Eagle-eyed Mark Dorriesfield with eyes glued to his eyepiece was finding and calling out various goodies. A Red-throated Loon, although in winter plumage, was recognizable from surrounding Common Loons by its pale colour, more slender neck and upturned



bill. A couple other Red-throats were further out with many more Commons. Then a group of 8 Black Scoters were spotted, all females; and further to the right several White-winged Scoters. We heard distinctive bugling from behind us, so we turned around to see a flock of 11 Sandhill Cranes flying along in a westerly direction.

We decided to try another spot, so we drove across the Durham line and found a public beach access at the end of Brock 2nd Concession. We spied a couple of Horned Grebes, then another and another. In all,

close to a hundred Horned Grebes were spread out across the lake. Many waterfowl also including Common Goldeneyes and Buffleheads, a Long-tailed Duck and a tight gathering of Hooded Mergansers were found.

Our last stop was the Beaverton Sewage Lagoons. Two of the ponds are no longer used to treat municipal effluent but are maintained as a public park with a trail. A group of female scaup rested on the south pond. Mark Dorriesfield studied them closely and was able to point out the subtle differences between the Greater Scaup with their rounded heads, from the ever so slightly smaller Lesser Scaup with their slightly peaked crowns. A strange almost featureless pale duck swam among them which we concluded was a female Long-tailed Duck transitioning from spring to winter plumage.

In all about 40 species of birds were noted including a good assortment of waterfowl. It was a morning of good weather, good birds and good company.

“Butts” In the News!

I scan a lot of articles each month and every now and then one catches my eye!

The Toronto Star published an article on December 11th about the Kakapo, a flightless parrot from New Zealand. Recent studies in 2002 found a new disease was impacting them. Called Crusty Bum, it causes nasty impacts and secondary infections to birds and can lead to death. No cure has been found and the impacts to birds have not been assessed as yet. Any negative pressure on this endangered species is unwelcome however.

The Star also published an article in December entitled “Why human faces are

like monkey bums”. This is just an article you gotta read when you see a title like that! Turns out the article is about how chimps bums are unique in their patterning and colour and how chimps can recognize each other by studying their butts, similar to the way we recognize the faces of our friends. The researchers go on to say that the butt of a chimp is round and has characteristic features just like our faces do. In women, facial expressions convey a message to a suitor while in chimps the colour and swollenness of the butt portray a similar message. This study went on to determine if what is known as the “inversion effect” is prevalent in both people and chimps. This is essentially a phenomenon where if a person sees a face of friend in an inverted position they have trouble identifying it, but if they see a butt upside down, they don’t – they recognize it



as a butt regardless of its orientation spatially. In the chimps, because the butt is more important in communicating readiness for breeding, the chimps had no trouble identifying another chimp as a chimp if seen upside down, but did have trouble if the butt was inverted. I suspect that if one studies this further this is a common attribute in most monkeys and apes, such as the Proboscis Monkey pictured above. Sounds kind of weird, but it makes sense if you study it a bit. Shows how our perception of what is important needs to be flexible depending on what we're studying!

Quiz

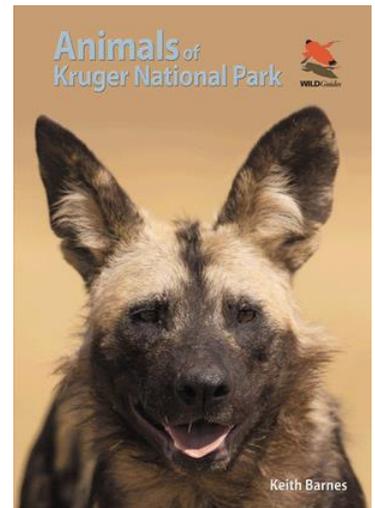
I live in the woods and eat earthworms and other soil dwelling invertebrates mostly. Sometimes I walk as if I'm moving in slow motion. Despite my diet, surprisingly I migrate in very early March back to Ontario from my wintering grounds. What am I?



Book Reviews

Animals of Kruger National Park by Keith Barnes, Princeton University Press, 2016. \$16.77 USD. ISBN: 9780691161785 176 pp.

I find books about African wildlife immediately attractive as I traveled there in the past but many years have passed since I last visited. It is high on my "re-visit bucket list". I think what was most appealing about this book is the fact that it's not just about the mammals – not that there's anything wrong with the African game, but it goes on to talk about reptiles and amphibians as well. The latter is most appealing as I love to study the herptiles when I travel but usually don't have a field guide to help me. Here I have it in this volume. Princeton presents the information using clear text and stunning photos of all the animals mentioned in the book. The book provides detailed descriptions of the mammals and herps, speaking to field marks, habitat, behaviour, biology and conservation. In times when animals around the world are so threatened one must learn to enjoy these animals without interfering in their lives unnecessarily. As we travel more and more to the very places such as Kruger N.P. that require protection, books such as this help us understand the importance of these parks. Fifty-seven mammals, seventeen reptiles and eight frogs are covered in the book. Tracks and spoor are important clue to identifying wildlife so the author has offered 116 drawings of their spoor and tracks - nice touch that I haven't seen in



many books before. The book also adds valuable information about where to watch wildlife, how to watch animals and what rules and laws are in place to protect the wildlife. Timing of trips, habitat descriptors and a photographic essay on key plants ensure your trip will be fulsome and informative!

If you're thinking of going to South Africa, this is a must buy book!

Answer to Quiz

I am an American Woodcock. Recently several were found in late December in Ontario on various Christmas Counts, but none in the Uxbridge, Brock or Port Perry area!



For more information about NDN

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*Note: All photos and text in this newsletter
by Geoff Carpentier unless otherwise stated*

Geoff Carpentier – Editor

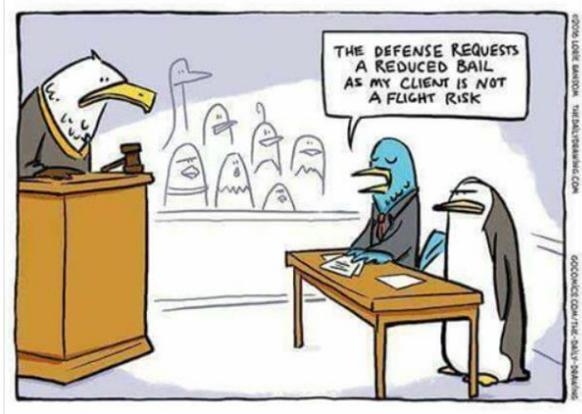
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 Facebook!

We have a new Facebook page – check us
out at North Durham Nature:

<https://www.facebook.com/northdurhamnature>

Once our page comes up simply “Like” it
and you will receive regular updates on
what we're up to! Thanks to Kim Lendvay
for designing, developing and maintaining
this exciting new social media opportunity
for us!



	Beaverton			Uxbridge		
	Number of individuals	Years	High	Number of individuals	Years	High
		Seen	Count		Seen	Count
Canada Goose	5	14	2138	355	14	2741
Trumpete Swan				2	9	52
Tundra Swan	4	1	4			
Am. Black Duck				13	9	13
Mallard				178	14	655
Common Goldeneye	12	13	339			
Common Merganser	141	18	2309			
Red-breasted Merganser	3	3	8			
Wild Turkey	136	21	592	203	14	251
Ruffed Grouse				8	14	14
Ring-necked Pheasant				1	5	1
Bald Eagle	5	9	6	CW	4	1
Northern Harrier	1	14	5			
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	31	6	1	12	6
Cooper's Hawk	4	26	7	3	11	4
Red-tailed Hawk	8	42	47	21	13	43
Rough-legged Hawk				1	8	2
American Kestrel	2	36	12			
Ring-billed Gull	CW	20	381	10	9	149
Herring Gull	3	29	846			
Great Black-backed Gull	1	18	84			
gull sp.				5	3	5
Rock Pigeon	256	42	805	381	14	694
Mourning Dove	409	41	847	602	14	664
Eastern Screech Owl	1	25	6			
Snowy Owl	CW	9	6			
Barred Owl	1	8	2			
Belted Kingfisher	1	22	2	1	7	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	16	14	10	6	12	8
Downy Woodpecker	53	42	74	66	14	82
Hairy Woodpecker	25	42	60	41	13	59
Pileated Woodpecker	2	38	15	5	12	21
Northern Flicker				1	5	3
Northern Shrike	4	41	14			
Blue Jay	342	42	484	453	14	511
American Crow	351	42	762	518	14	708
Common Raven	11	9	12	20	13	38
Black-capped Chickadee	853	42	912	783	14	1193
Red-breasted Nuthatch	15	42	34	85	14	116
White-breasted Nuthatch	72	42	69	70	14	85
Brown Creeper	6	35	14	1	11	8
Hermit Thrush				1	1	1
Eastern Bluebird				19	2	19
American Robin	113	34	434	698	13	698
European Starling	911	42	2529	1536	14	1536
Bohemian Waxwing				3	8	334
Cedar Waxwing	20	27	604	23	10	417
Eastern Towhee				CW	1	CW
American Tree Sparrow	277	42	461	134	14	319
Song Sparrow				1	6	1
Dark-eyed Junco	476	42	386	723	14	875
Snow Bunting	366	40	4805	216	13	1355
Northern Cardinal	57	42	101	61	14	121
Red-winged Blackbird	CW	7	2			
Rusty Blackbird	CW	3	1	CW	1	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	CW	8	11	1	3	2
Purple Finch				12	8	23
House Finch	49	29	282	20	14	193
Common Redpoll	4	28	556			
American Goldfinch	161	42	1142	530	14	1739
House Sparrow	38	42	900	121	14	210
Total individuals	5216			7933		
	42 species			44 species		