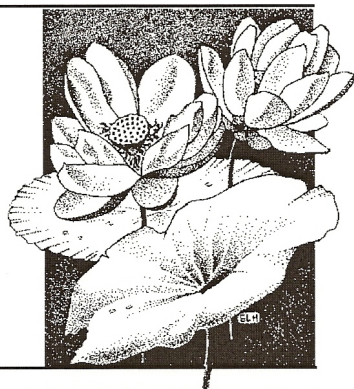


# Lotus

NEWSLETTER

of the  
NORFOLK FIELD NATURALISTS



FEBRUARY 2018



## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT WOODHOUSE

Report by: David Okines

These are the results of the 31<sup>st</sup> Woodhouse CBC held on Sunday, December 17, 2017. The Woodhouse CBC is centred seven kilometres east of Simcoe, at the crossroads of Highway 3 and Cockshutt Road at Renton in Norfolk County and roughly covers from Port Dover to Waterford and just west of Simcoe to east of Jarvis.



Swamp Sparrow Photo: George Pond

**Weather:** The weather this year was better than the freezing rain of last year. Overnight and during the day it was dry and mostly cloudy. Temperatures overnight went from -5C at midnight down to -7C at dawn; daytime high was -4. The wind was mostly calm or light easterly.

**NEW SPECIES TO THE COUNT:** None

**COUNT WEEK SPECIES:** None

**RECORD HIGH:** (previous high)

Great Blue Heron	11	(11) = high count
Peregrine Falcon	2	(1) record high
Snowy Owl	5	(3) record high
Red-bellied Woodpecker	61	(49) record high
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	(2) = high count
Common Raven	2	(2) = high count
Eastern Towhee	3	(3) = high count
Slate-coloured Junco	3337	(2170) record high
Red-winged Blackbird	351	(225) record high
Common Grackle	64	(25) record high

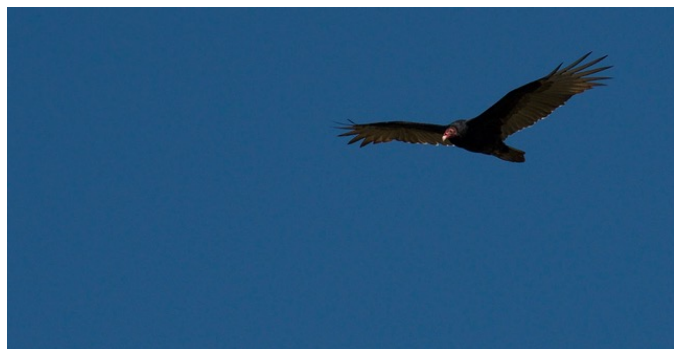
**RECORD LOW:** (previous low)

None

**Total Species:** 90 with no additional Count Week species (average for the last 30 years = 79; average for the last 10 years = 85)

**Total Individuals:** 18,972 (average for the last 30 years = 26,0559, average for the last 10 years = 25,709)

**Number of participants:** 34



Turkey Vulture Photo: Jan Grincevicius

cont'd. p. 2

**SPECIES ABOVE AVERAGE:** (last 10-year average)

Double-crested Cormorant	4	(0)
Greater Scaup	213	(174)
Bald Eagle	16	(9)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	10	(7)
Coopers Hawk	15	(9)
Wild Turkey	330	(158)
Great Black-backed Gull	18	(12)
Mourning Dove	1168	(626)
Eastern Screech Owl	44	(38)
Downy Woodpecker	116	(102)
Hairy Woodpecker	20	(16)
Blue Jay	543	(359)
Horned Lark	338	(256)
Eastern Tufted Titmouse	3	(1)
Eastern Bluebird	86	(55)
European Starling	2749	(1745)
Chipping Sparrow	9	(0)
White-crowned Sparrow	57	(11)
Snow Bunting	990	(585)
Rusty Blackbird	36	(12)
House Sparrow	1292	(990)

Cedar Waxwing	20	(62)
American Tree Sparrow	646	(878)
Song Sparrow	35	(55)
House Finch	161	(216)
American Goldfinch	159	(327)



Northern Cardinal (f) Photo: Larry Monczka

**SPECIES WELL BELOW AVERAGE:**

(last 10-year average)

Canada Goose	2245	(7383)
Cackling Goose	1	(7)
Mallard	381	(2269)
American Black Duck	53	(187)
Gadwall	6	(19)
Redhead	7	(570)
Bufflehead	95	(296)
Common Merganser	309	(608)
Red-breasted Merganser	249	(726)
Ruddy Duck	1	(7)
Northern Harrier	10	(15)
American Kestrel	13	(19)
Bonaparte's Gull	17	(113)
Ring-billed Gull	170	(1348)
Herring Gull	88	(156)
Rock Pigeon	392	(6538)
American Crow	519	(723)
Black-capped Chickadee	307	(453)
White-breasted Nuthatch	48	(75)
Brown Creeper	2	(8)
Golden-crowned Kinglet	13	(31)
American Robin	17	(23)
American Pipit	2	(11)

**NOTABLE ABSENTEES**

Tundra Swan 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row  
 Canvasback 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row  
 Lesser Scaup 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row  
 Ruffed Grouse 8<sup>th</sup> year in a row

**ALSO WORTHY OF MENTION**

Turkey Vulture 1 (8<sup>th</sup> record)  
 Wood Duck 1 (10<sup>th</sup> record)  
 Ring-necked Duck 1 (9<sup>th</sup> record)  
 Savannah Sparrow 1 (1<sup>st</sup> since 2007 and 4<sup>th</sup> record)  
 Eastern Meadowlark 1 (4<sup>th</sup> record)



Snowy Owl Photo: Sue Olmstead

**FULL SPECIES LIST AND TALLY**

Horned Grebe	2	Wild Turkey	330	American Robin	17
Double-crested Cormorant	4	Bonaparte's Gull	17	Northern Mockingbird	3
Great Blue Heron	11	Ring-billed Gull	170	European Starling	2749
Turkey Vulture	1	Herring Gull	88	American Pipit	2
Mute Swan	7	Great Black-backed Gull	18	Cedar Waxwing	20
Canada Goose	2245	Rock Pigeon	392	Myrtle Warbler	3
Cackling Goose	1	Mourning Dove	1168	Eastern Towhee	3
Wood Duck	1	Eastern Screech-Owl	44	American Tree Sparrow	646
Mallard	381	Great Horned Owl	2	Chipping Sparrow	9
American Black Duck	53	Snowy Owl	5	Field Sparrow	2
Gadwall	6	Belted Kingfisher	7	Savannah Sparrow	1
Redhead	7	Red-bellied Woodpecker	61	Song Sparrow	35
Ring-necked Duck	1	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	Swamp Sparrow	16
Greater Scaup	213	Downy Woodpecker	116	White-throated Sparrow	24
(Scaup Sp)	90	Hairy Woodpecker	20	White-crowned Sparrow	57
Common Goldeneye	157	Yellow-shafted Flicker	11	Slate-colored Junco	3337
Bufflehead	95	Pileated Woodpecker	4	Lapland Longspur	7
Hooded Merganser	17	Northern Shrike	2	Snow Bunting	990
Common Merganser	309	Blue Jay	543	Northern Cardinal	249
Red-breasted Merganser	249	American Crow	519	Red-winged Blackbird	351
Ruddy Duck	1	Common Raven	2	Eastern Meadowlark	1
Bald Eagle	16	Horned Lark	338	Rusty Blackbird	36
Northern Harrier	10	Black-capped Chickadee	307	Common Grackle	64
Sharp-shinned Hawk	10	Eastern Tufted Titmouse	3	Brown-headed Cowbird	334
Cooper's Hawk	15	Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	Purple Finch	2
Red-tailed Hawk	104	White-breasted Nuthatch	48	House Finch	161
Rough-legged Hawk	11	Brown Creeper	2	Pine Siskin	33
Peregrine Falcon	2	Carolina Wren	11	American Goldfinch	159
American Kestrel	13	Winter Wren	2	House Sparrow	1292
Merlin	1	Golden-crowned Kinglet	13	<b>Total</b>	<b>90 Sp</b>
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	Eastern Bluebird	86		



Wild Turkeys Photo: Len Grincevicius



# ACROSS CANADA - A GEOGRAPHICAL JOURNEY

Story and photos by Inga Hinnerichsen

*(Author's note: My apologies for the fuzzy quality of the photos. The train wouldn't slow down for photo ops)*

A couple of years ago, during one of our trips to Australia, we traveled by the "Ghan" (called so, because of the Afghan camel drovers imported to access the interior), a famous train leaving Adelaide in the south and arriving in Darwin in the north 4 days later. We caught the train half way through the journey, in Alice Springs in the Red Centre. I have always liked train travel. Both Dave and I have travelled by rail in Europe a fair amount in the past. The Ghan is a notch or two up from your typical passenger train with comfortable private compartments including a small bathroom. The dining car menu and service is definitely top drawer. Everyone dresses for dinner. A lounge car with soft seating provides a great opportunity to socialize with your fellow passengers from all corners of the world. All meals and refreshments are included. The Ghan makes a few stops, 3 - 4 hours a piece, along the way providing choices of activities such as camel rides, helicopter tours, boat tours in scenic gorges, etc.

We caught the train bug.

Dave looked for another trip and we decided on a cross Canada journey by VIA-Rail, called "The Canadian". The timing was just perfect. I had just completed four Mushroom Identification hikes. This year it was particularly challenging because of the hot and dry weather we had in September. There were no mushrooms on the ground at all, only the tough shelf brackets that fruit on tree trunks and rotten wood. I had to do some quick and furious studying of these fungi that normally don't show up very high on my radar screen. Including my far and wide pre-scouting and scrounging for samples (plus my regular outings with the dogs), I figured I walked at least 50 km during two consecutive weekends. Phew.

Four days on a train lounging around was just the ticket. We flew to Vancouver, took a taxi from the airport to the railway station and hopped on the VIA Rail train destined for Toronto. This twice a week service is a regular passenger train, a far cry from the high end Ghan. Passengers have choices of comfort levels (and ticket prices): couch - comfy seats that recline, small private compartments

complete with a small toilet and the deluxe version of the same. We travelled in the not quite deluxe compartment. The car attendant would set up the bunk beds while we had supper and in the morning he'd flip up the beds and set up the comfy seats for day use.



Pyramid Falls, BC

It was already dark by the time we left Vancouver, so no scenic vistas of the Fraser valley. In the morning, the train was stopped in Kamloops in the interior BC waiting for a freight train to pass on its way to the west coast ports. During our trip, we had to pull over on sidings numerous times to let the freight traffic through. This was a particularly busy time of the year with the grain harvest from the prairies being shipped west for export. Canadian National Railways owns the track and VIA pays rent to use it. The freight traffic has the right-of-way. We were made aware of the delays, but since we were in no great hurry, it was fine.

The area around Kamloops is a semi-desert. It sits in the rain shadow behind the coastal mountain range where most of the moisture from the Pacific Ocean falls along the western slopes feeding the Pacific rainforests. The summers are hot and dry,

the valleys and hills are only sparsely dotted with hardy pines and junipers. The train continued east climbing higher into the Rockies. We caught glimpses of fresh snow at the higher altitudes through gaps in the low-hanging clouds. The forest became dense and dark with hemlock and fir. This is the preferred home of the Varied Thrush. During the nesting season, you can hear the haunting, eerie single tones of these beautiful birds echo and fade in the forest. All day we marvelled at majestic mountain vistas arriving in Jasper at dusk.



**Rolling Alberta prairie with a dusting of early snow**

The morning brought views of wintry Alberta prairies. Ho hum, you'd think. What's there to look at on the prairies for two days? Nothing but flat land as far as you can see, right? - Wrong! The land rolls gently alternating with deeper river coulees and shallow sloughs crowded with migrating waterfowl. Mule deer (and some cattle) graze near aspen groves and big raptors soar in the sky. With any luck at all you can spot a herd of Pronghorn Antelope, the second fastest land animal on this planet bettered only by the Cheetah. No wonder this is called Big Sky Country. There is an ever-changing drama unfolding above the prairie: distant dark snow squalls, sudden sun rays breaking through the clouds, small patches of blue appearing in the rolling grey, a perfect backdrop for flocks of flying ducks, geese and Trumpeter Swans. Never a boring moment!

We quickly settled into a daily routine. We decided to skip the dining car breakfast - three big meals a day is just too much. Instead we walked to

the lounge five train cars away around mid-morning. There was a coffee/tea station with juices, cookies, muffins and fresh fruit, perfect for a light meal. We had reservations for the last lunch and supper seating in the dining car. Again, the food was excellent. So was the company. We were seated at tables for four and met several very interesting travellers from as far as Australia, New Zealand and Hawai'i. We met another couple who had also done exactly what we did: Fly to Vancouver from Toronto and take the train back. We were not the only crazies! Between meals we enjoyed reading, looking at the scenery floating by and taking photos out the train window. The VIA lounge car was somewhat lackluster. You had to hunt down the lounge attendant who would open a locked cabinet in a galley to pour you a glass of wine.



**The VIA "Canadian" travelling east in northwest Ontario**

Leaving the prairies behind the train continued into northwest Ontario. The landscape changed revealing the Canadian shield scraped and polished by the receding glaciers of the last ice age with alternating lakes, rivers, muskeg, alvars and boreal forest. It reminded me of my old native land, Finland. The train tracks don't follow the Trans Canada Highway for most of the journey. In the past, I have driven across Canada twice. Unlike the highway, the train travels through large tracts of pristine wilderness until you get well into southern Ontario. The boreal forest began to give way to more temperate deciduous forests as we proceeded south. In early October, we caught the blazing autumn colours of tamarack, aspen, birch and maples as we crossed the French River and travelled through the cottage country north of Toronto. The





Brilliant fall colours in southern Ontario

train coasted into Toronto eight hours behind schedule. What a trip! If you ever want to get a good cross section of the vastness and amazing diversity of Canada, take the train.



White Birch and Tamarack in fall foliage

We have already booked our next adventure: Planes, Trains and Automobiles... but that's another story.

### Harry B Barrett Bursary Fund

The NFN was approached by an anonymous donor in January about setting up and coordinating a Bursary Fund. The fund will be managed by the Norfolk Community Foundation.

The fund is named as a tribute to Harry B Barrett and his lifelong contribution to Norfolk County, its past and present, and its natural history; and Norfolk Field Naturalists. The purpose of the fund will be to promote natural heritage in Norfolk County, Ontario, through instruction of pre-university, college and undergraduate level students in the study, identification and/or monitoring of terrestrial and/or freshwater natural heritage features. The NFN is presently working out details of the application process.

The request came with a very generous donation to start the capital of the fund. However, it alone, is not able to generate enough interest income for the bursary.

The NFN will be launching a campaign to raise more capital for the fund. All donations are tax deductible.

If you want to learn more, or are interested in contributing to this fantastic opportunity to support biological research, and to protect and preserve the rare and valuable nature of Norfolk, please, contact either:

Inga Hinnerichsen, President NFN, 519-875-5601,  
email: [daveinga@live.ca](mailto:daveinga@live.ca)

Barb Hourigan, Treasurer NFN, 519-583-1198,  
email: [bbhourigan@gmail.com](mailto:bbhourigan@gmail.com)

### Welcome New NFN Members

2017 - 2018 Season

**Brian Craig, Richard & Karen Davis,  
Jeremy & Liam Henderson and  
Travis Lockhart**

**We look forward to meeting you and hope you  
will participate in and enjoy all the NFN indoor  
presentations and field outings.**

# CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

## FISHERVILLE

Report by: Linda Thrower, Compiler

Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Wind chill around midnight was -30°C with a N.E wind of 15 km. By around 9:00 am, the temperature had risen to -19°C, but if you were dressed right, it was a nice day for looking for birds. But, you had to look for them, which gives this count a few more new lows than new highs.

The day looked like this:

- Sandhill Cranes are back on the count but seem to be losing in numbers — 2011 – 10; 2017 – 2 (number the same as 2016).
- Lowest number of Canada Geese since 1999 when there were 1,967; now their number is 2,246.
- Lowest number of Tundra Swans since 1999 when 1 was also found. Last year's number was 79, 2015 – 172, 2014 – 260.
- Gadwalls also have their lowest numbers since 2009 when 1 was also seen.
- Lowest number of Mallards since 2000 when their numbers were 188; now 233.
- Redheaded Ducks have their lowest numbers since 2007 when 3 were found; this year was 2.
- Buffleheads showed their lowest numbers in 12 years at 288.
- Northern Harrier's lowest numbers since 2005 when 8 were seen; 2017 at 9.
- Red-tailed Hawk lowest number since 2007 when 50 were seen; this year 79.
- The largest number of Ring-necked Pheasants since 2003 when there were 5; now 11, after being absent from the count for 11 years.
- Wild Turkeys have been counted in their highest numbers since 2012 when their numbers were 263. On this count their numbers are 171.
- Lowest number of Ring-billed Gulls since the count began in 1989, when 8 were seen. This year 5 were found. Their highest number was in 2007 when 3,783 were counted. 3,000 were recorded in Area 8 at the Ontario Power Generation plant. This year, no Gulls recorded on site.
- Lowest number of Herring Gulls since 1989 with only 5 being counted this year. In 1989, 82 were seen. Their highest number was 1,907 in 2002, but once again 1,561 of those were recorded.
- In Area 8 (OPG), for the first time there were no Greater-black backed Gulls on the count.
- The lowest number of Screech-owls recorded with only 1 being found.
- Highest number of Snowy Owls with 7 being spotted. We found one at the Ontario Power generation site, and we had to wonder if it was because the landscape had changed to Snowy Owl hunting land with no more buildings being found.
- The highest number of yellow-bellied Sapsuckers with 3 counted.
- Highest number of Blue jays since 2012 when 600 were seen. 2017 — 323.
- Highest number of Common Ravens at 4. It is the first time on the count for this species since 1989 when 2 were seen.
- Lowest number of European starling since 2000 when there were 1,755; now 1,291.
- Highest number of Juncos since 2012 at 556.
- Lowest number of Lapland Longspurs since 2006; this count was 1.
- Highest number of Rusty Blackbirds since 2003 when 46 were seen, 2017 was 32.
- And last but not least the lowest number of American Goldfinch since 1989 at 115. Many people including me find the Goldfinch numbers very low at our feeders.



American Kestrel Photo: Len Grincevicius

**Species for December 28**

Great Blue heron	4	Ring-bellied Gull	5	Eastern Bluebird	17
Canada Geese	2246	Herring Gull	5	Northern Mocking bird	11
Mute Swan	2	Rock Pigeon	362	European Starling	1291
Tundra Swan	1	Mourning Dove	438	Cedar waxwing	1
Gadwall	1	Eastern Screech Owl	1	American Tree Sparrow	556
Am. Black Duck	43	Great-horned Owl	5	Song Sparrow	14
Mallard	233	Snowy Owl	7	Swamp Sparrow	3
Red-headed Duck	2	Long-eared Owl	1	White-throated Sparrow	8
Lesser Scaup	16	Red-bellied Woodpecker	35	Slate-colored Junco	556
Long-tailed Duck	1	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3	Snow Bunting	347
Bufflehead	288	Downy Woodpecker	69	Lapland Longspur	1
Common Goldeneye	69	Hairy Woodpecker	12	Northern Cardinal	126
Common Merganser	60	Pileated Woodpecker	1	Red-winged Blackbird	22
Red-breasted Merganser	135	Northern Shrike	1	Rusty Blackbird	32
Bald Eagle	5	Blue Jay	323	Common Grackle	1
Northern Harrier	9	American Crow	535	Yellow-shafted Flicker	4
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	Common Raven	4	Brown-headed Cowbird	582
Cooper's Hawk	3	Horned Lark	89	House Finch	74
Red-tailed Hawk	79	Black-capped Chickadee	217	American Goldfinch	115
Rough-legged Hawk	14	Tufted Titmouse	9	House Sparrow	1319
Am. Kestrel	17	Red-breasted Nuthatch	8	White-crowned Sparrow	5
Merlin	1	White-breasted Nuthatch	49	Sand hill Cranes	2
Peregrine Falcon	1	Brown Creeper	6	Total Species	71
Ring-necked Pheasant	11	Golden-crowned Kinglet	9	Total Individuals	10, 636
Wild Turkey	171				

Thanks all the of the half-frozen people who were nice enough to climb out of their nice warm beds:

Area 1 — Rob Crawford

Area 2 — Adrian Jurrlink, Neil Faulkenham, Richard Skevington

Area 3 — Bill Read, Jerry Geuther, Garnet Faulkner, Mary Galli, Beth Powell

Area 4 — George Pond, Rick Dowson, Allan Aubin

Area 5 — Adam Timpf, Matt Timpf, Janice Chard

Area 6 — Tom Thomas, Ron Campeau, Bill Smith, Amanda Anstice

Area 7 — Hugh McArthur, Cassy Weaver, Julia Weaver

Area 8 — Bob Stamp, Rob Smuck, Cody Rowe, Michael Meade, Alan Thrower, Linda Thrower

Area 9 — Audrey Heagy, Diane Salter, Greg Salter

Total Number of Participants: 31

The weather for the day was like this:

Winds — 10 to 20 km N.E.; Visibility — 10 km; Temperature — - 24 to -15 C; Snow Cover — 6 to 10 inches. with some drifts; Water — Frozen here and there close to the shore.

And the rest of the data is:

Number of parties — 12; Number of feeders — 4; Total Party Hours — 182; Total Driving Hours — 112.5; Total Km Driving — 1796.8; Total Hours Walked — 69.5; Total Km Walked — 92

Owling Total:

Hours — 3.5; Distance — 3.5 km

Feeders:

Hours — 15; Total No. Feeders — 4

Thank You to one and all who had the time to count the birds!!

Also Thank You to Ontario Power Generation Plant for allowing access to their property.



Gadwall Photo: George Pond



Ontario's 2007 Endangered Species Act (ESA) isn't protecting at-risk species because the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is failing to effectively implement it, according to a report by the David Suzuki Foundation, Ecojustice and Ontario Nature.

The report highlights broad exemptions granted to industry from prohibitions, major delays in the development of recovery strategies for at-risk species, and a complete lack of public transparency about harmful activities occurring in at-risk species' habitats.

The report identifies a problem inherent to the MNRF mandate: that it is responsible for both protecting biodiversity and "promoting economic opportunities in the resource sector".

As of October 2017, there were more than 2,000 registered activities exempted from ESA prohibitions against harm to species at risk and their habitat, for which no information has been publicly released. It is uncertain if the MNRF is monitoring these activities or the mitigation measures that proponents claim they will complete. In most instances, the MNRF requires that mitigation plans be developed, but not that they be submitted. Under the exemption regulation, there is no approval process. As the report finds, "The ministry has no authority under the ESA to say no to any project. In essence, the ministry gave up this authority when it put the exemptions in place."

The report discusses several species for which MNRF-led recovery plans are long overdue, including but not limited to: Eastern pond mussel – seven years overdue; Chimney swift – five years overdue; American ginseng – four years overdue; Gypsy cuckoo bumblebee (a vital pollinator) – one year overdue.

For further info on this topic, and more, visit:

**ontarionature.org**

## **Thank You!**

**From Norfolk Field Naturalists to**

**Will Partridge / Guardian Computing**

**For hosting our website**

The Board of Directors met on January 5, 2018 at The Blue Elephant restaurant in Simcoe. Inga Hinnerichsen had called a Special Meeting mainly to hear more about a proposed bursary fund, get the approval of the Board and discuss strategy of the same. The regular updates were to be tabled providing there was enough time. The following are highlights from this meeting.

**The Harry B Bursary Fund** (see also the notice on page 6): The bursary is named in Harry B Barrett's memory, and got approval from Harry's five children. A donation to start the fund was made anonymously. This donation and other bursary fund donations would be funnelled through the NFN to be held and invested by the Norfolk Community Foundation (Ontario), and the NFN would award the bursary on an annual basis.

Motion by: Bernie Solymár that we accept this donation and enter into an arrangement with the NCF to set up this bursary fund. Seconded by: Peter Carson.

### **Other Business:**

Cindy Presant was officially appointed Secretary to the Board (Welcome Cindy!)

The Ontario Heritage Trust has renewed the custodial agreement with NFN regarding the Rowanwood property for another 25 years.

Treasurer's Report: The November statements were approved showing a balance of total assets of \$61,154.18. This total does not yet include the donation from NFN to the LPBLT of \$25,000.

The fundraiser silent auction for NCEE at our Christmas pot luck evening totalled \$450. Thank you all who participated.

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on February 20, 2018. The report from this meeting will be in the April issue of Lotus.

## **IN MEMORIAM DONATIONS**

**received to honour**

**Pat Robinson and Jim Harlow**

## Upcoming NFN 2018 Spring Events

### FIELD EVENT

**Saturday, March 3, 2018, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.**

#### What a Hoot — Owl Prowl

Take a moon lit hike as we play the recorded calls of local owls to entice them to answer us. Listen to the deep hoot of the Great Horned Owl and the horse-like whinny of the Eastern Screech Owl. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. This is a joint event with Nature's Calling Environmental Education. Location TBA. *Contact Bernie at 519-428-0706.*

### FIELD EVENT

**Sunday, March 17, 2018, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.**

#### Winter Backus Woods Tree Ecology Hike

NCC Ecologist, Brett Norman, will take us on a crisp walk in the north tract of Backus Woods to learn how to identify trees in winter and their ecology. Meet at the Backus Woods parking lot on the south side of Highway 24. Dress for the season. *Contact Len at 519-428-6796.*

### FIELD EVENT

**Friday, April 6, 2018, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.**

#### Timberdoodle Night Hike

Come out for a night hike to witness the spectacular courtship display of the American Woodcock (aka Timberdoodle). We'll take a short walk along mowed trails through an old field. Bring a headlamp or flashlight as the display starts about dusk. **Weather dependent, rain date is the following night.** Meet at 273 Charlotteville Road 2, St. Williams, 2.2 km east of Forestry Farm Road just north of St. Williams. *Contact Audrey at 519-586-9464.*

## NFN Meetings

Norfolk Field Naturalist meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month from September to May.

Meetings take place at the **Simcoe Seniors Centre, 89 Pond Street.**

The meetings are free and visitors are always welcome. Doors open at 7:15 pm, programs begin at 7:30 nm

### NFN Mailing Address

**Norfolk Field Naturalists  
PO Box 995, Simcoe, ON  
N3Y 5B3**

### Next Lotus Issue:

**April 2018**

**Input dead line:**

**Friday, March 23, 2018**

## About the NFN

Norfolk Field Naturalists members participate in meetings and field outings, many of which are family-friendly. **Membership fees are \$20 Individual and \$30 Family.**

Donations are eligible for income tax credits. Charitable registration # 11905869RR00001

Guest speakers present programs on interesting and relevant natural history and conservation topics. Club members receive the Lotus newsletter with articles on local natural history and club activities. Copies of the Lotus are available at meetings, by mail or by email and posted on the NFN web site. Articles published in the Lotus reflect the views and opinions of the authors, but not necessarily those of the NFN.

**[www.norfolkfieldnaturalists.org](http://www.norfolkfieldnaturalists.org)**

### 2017 - 2018 NFN Executive with Contact and Project Information

		All 519-	
<b>President</b>	Inga Hinnerichsen	875-5601	daveinga@live.ca
<b>Vice-President</b>	Len Grincevicius	428-6796	portie_1989@eastlink.ca
<b>Sanctuary</b>	Peter Carson	586-3985	gartcar@kwic.com
<b>Past President</b>	Bernie Solymár	427-9969	solymar@nornet.on.ca
<b>Treasurer</b>	Barb Hourigan	583-1198	bbhourigangmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Cindy Presant	586-9258	cindy.presant@gmail.com
<b>Director/Membership</b>	Diane Salter	586-7775	bigcreek@kwic.com
<b>Director Speaker Program and Field Events</b>	Len Grincevicius	428-6796	portie_1989@eastlink.ca
<b>Director Publicity</b>	Sue Olmstead	583-1436	ksolmstead@kwic.com
<b>Director Environment</b>	Bernie Solymár	427-9969	solymar@nornet.on.ca
<b>Director-at-large</b>	Ken Olmstead	583-1436	ksolmstead@kwic.com
<b>Director-at-large</b>	vacant		
<b>Director-at-large</b>	vacant		
<b>Director-at-large</b>	vacant		
<b>Lotus Editor (appointed)</b>	Jan Grincevicius	519-428-6796	pwdtwo_2@eastlink.ca
<b>Butterfly Counts: (appointed)</b>	Adam Timpf	586-9964	
<b>Christmas Bird Counts: (appointed)</b>	David Okines - Woodhouse Count	519-586-9464	
	Linda Thrower - Fisherville Count	905-774-1230	
<b>Honorary President:</b>	George Pond		
<b>Honorary Directors:</b>	Anne and Dolf Wynia		