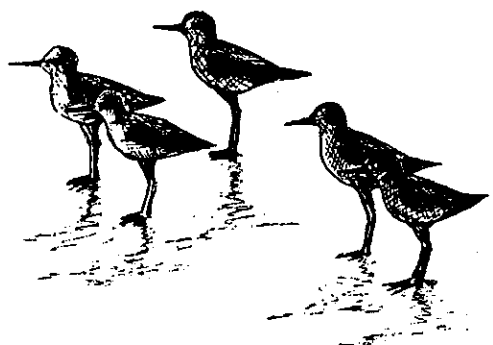


L. B. G. N.

BLOMIDON NATURALISTS' SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 13
NUMBER 3
SEPTEMBER 1986

The BNS Newsletter is published on equinoxes and solstices.

SOCIETY NEWS

BNS Autumn - Early Winter Programme

MONDAY EVENING MEETINGS: All meetings will start at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in Room 244 of the Beveridge Arts Centre at Acadia University. All lectures and field trips are open to the public and BNS members are encouraged to bring friends and neighbours. Any changes in the date, time or subject of meetings are announced on posters, the Kings Kable notice board and in The Kentville Advertiser and The Hants Journal.

1. October 20 -- Annual Meeting. Professor George Stevens of Acadia University will give an illustrated talk on the geology of the Cape Split area.
2. November 17 -- Steve Davis of St. Mary's University, Halifax, will speak on the native peoples of Nova Scotia prior to the arrival of Europeans.
3. December 8 -- (Note carefully. This is the second Monday night, not our usual third, to avoid being too close to Christmas.) Show and Tell Night. A chance for everyone to participate by presenting natural objects such as shells, nests, rocks, pressed flowers, etc., and/or making slide presentations concerning natural phenomena. Each slide presentation will be limited to ten or fewer slides. Tables and slide projectors will be provided. The exact location will be announced.

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 Distribution: Lana Churchill and Brenda Thexton

"The primary objective of the Society shall be to encourage and develop in its members an understanding and appreciation of nature. For the purpose of the Society, the word 'nature' will be interpreted broadly and shall include the rocks, plants, animals, water, air, and stars."
 from the BNS constitution

4. January 18 -- to be announced.

5. February 15 -- Julie Porter of Wolfville will speak on Kittiwakes and other seabirds.

Field Trips: Unless otherwise noted, all times are given for meeting at the Gym parking lot of Acadia University. Boots are often advisable, especially this year. Morning trips sometimes extend into the afternoon so you may wish to bring lunch.

1. Sunday, October 5, 8:00 a.m. -- Delaps Cove Trail in Annapolis County. All day. Atlassers please note: this is one of the few priority squares not taken in our region so please come to scout it out for a planned "blitz" next June.

2. Sunday, October 12, 8:00 a.m. -- Geology in the Blomidon area led by David Hope-Simpson and a visit to fossil beds led by Dr. Reg Moore. Bring a lunch.

3. Sunday, October 19, 2.15 p.m. or 2:30 at the Grand Pre Park parking lot -- Late Shorebirds at Evangeline Beach. Leader: Jim Wolford. Bring binoculars and scopes if possible.

4. Monday, November 3, 7:45 p.m. or 8:00 p.m. at the Wolfville Ridge Stile Park -- Fall Skies. Larry Bogan is our leader. Jupiter, fall constellations and other objects in the sky will be discussed and viewed. Naturally, the trip will only take place if the skies are clear. Bring binoculars and dress very warmly.

5. Mid-December -- early January. -- Christmas Bird Count and, for the first time, an official Audubon Count! As soon as it is chosen, the designated Wolfville Count Day will be announced at our meetings. If you are interested in helping with the count, contact Peter Smith at 542-2201, ext. 334 (leave a message), or Jean Timpa at 542-5678. A fee of \$3.00 will be collected on the Count Day for the Audubon Count. Those wishing to participate only in the traditional Christmas Bird Count are welcome to do so. (See Merritt Gibson's article in this issue about past counts.)

Dues

Annual membership dues in the Blomidon Naturalists Society are payable at the Annual Meeting on October 20 or shortly thereafter. The amount of the annual dues will be set and a new Treasurer elected at this meeting. If you are unable to attend, call Jean Timpa at 542-5678 (or write her at P.O. Box 1382, Wolfville, N.S. B0P 1X0) for information concerning the amount of the dues and to whom they should be forwarded. Members receive four issues yearly of this Newsletter. The Blomidon Naturalists Society is now an affiliate of the Canadian Nature Federation.

Membership is not essential to attend either meetings or field trips; guests are always welcome at these functions.

Acknowledgements

Thanks this time to:

Alex Wilson of the Nova Scotia Museum for starting off our 1986-1987 lecture series so well with his discussion and slides of Nova Scotia's natural areas;

all our fine field trip leaders this past summer: Ron Nash, Frances Stewart and the other archeological dig course students, Sherman Bleakney, Jim Wolford, Sherman Williams, Roy Bishop, Carl Haycock, Harold Graham and Richard Stern;

all those who made this Newsletter possible;

Rachel Erskine for contributing delicious "yummies" for after our meetings and to those who serve them.

BNS Newsletter Deadline - December 21, 1986

The Newsletter is a forum for the dissemination of information among Society members and all members are urged to contribute. Articles, reports, letters to the editor, poetry, sightings, trivia, jokes, etc., are all welcomed.

The Sightings and Trivial Tidbits section of the Newsletter is selected, compiled and edited by Jim Wolford. Giving or sending Jim a written list of your observations in chronological order would greatly simplify his task. Jim's address is:

Jim Wolford
Biology Department
Acadia University
Wolfville, N.S. BOP 1X0

Last-minute observations can be called in to 542-2201, ext. 334 (leave a message).

All other contributions to the Newsletter should be sent or given to:

Jean Timpa
P.O. Box 1382
Wolfville, N.S. BOP 1X0

or to other members of the BNS executive. Please double space all contributions.

Field trip reports are included in the Newsletter to preserve a historical record of Society activities. Currently a few members write most of these reports. Other members are encouraged to share this responsibility. If you are willing to write one of these reports, please notify the trip leader at the beginning of the trip. Your contribution will be most appreciated.

Valley Rare Bird Alert

If you are interested in learning of rare bird sightings in Nova Scotia and are willing to pass along information to another interested person, please contact Richard Stern at 678-1975.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Archeological Workshop
July 22, 1986

by Ellis Gertridge
Gaspereau, N.S.

During early July, 1986, the BNS executive became aware of an archeological dig being done at Med Coldwell's property on the Gaspereau River near Melanson. Contacting the archeologists resulted in an invitation to BNS members to visit the archeological lab to view artifacts and to hear about what was taking place at the site.

Volunteers attempted to contact all BNS members and a workshop was held on the evening of July 22nd in Huggins Science Hall at Acadia University. Over 75 people attended.

Ron Nash of St. Francis Xavier University welcomed the group and introduced Dr. Frances Stewart of U.N.B. Nash explained that the dig at Melanson was part of an advanced course in archeology that was being taken by 22 students from across eastern Canada. The purpose of the course was to train the students in proper "dig" procedures as well as obtain documentation for this important site since it is one of the two largest known pre-European sites in Nova Scotia. The student program consisted of work at the site each morning and class work during the afternoon. The course was to end on August 15, 1986. While Nash talked, a video of digging at the actual site was shown.

A number of other sites that showed evidence of pre-European occupation had been considered but the choice of the Melanson site appeared to be a wise one; tools and evidence of occupation were discovered on the first day of the dig.

Frances Stewart, the course's instructor, specializes in the identification of bones and she explained how her expertise helps construct a picture of the life and activities of the people who camped in the Gaspereau over the past 5000 years. She expressed her hope that enough bones and charcoal will be found to permit carbon-14 dating of the various camps found at the site.

Besides items found in the dig, a number of artifacts found by Dr. MacDonald in a nearby field about fifteen years ago were made available to the archeologists for comparison. Local amateur archeologists also provided their collections for examination, cataloging and photographing.

After a brief question and answer period, the audience was invited to visit the lab where Dr. MacDonald's artifacts were on display along with maps and sketches showing the probable landscape prior to European occupation. Everyone attending the workshop showed much interest. The students were present and were very helpful in answering questions about the displays.

Interested people were invited to make arrangements to visit the actual dig. Many, including myself, did. It was of great interest to see bits and pieces of the past come to light after hundreds or even thousands of years and to help sift out or wash stones that had been chipped into tools. A detective story unfolded before us as a fireplace with stones and ashes was unearthed. Samples were taken to help determine "who" had cooked and warmed themselves at the fire and "when".

The dig consisted of eleven two-meter square pits distributed in a checkerboard pattern and dug as deep as necessary to reach sterile soil. In many places this was about 30 cm but two of the squares were at least a meter deep with artifacts being found all the way to the bottom. Large rocks weighing as much as a man could lift were found in these deep pits. In another, a completely decomposed stake was found in the subsoil leaving only its brown form in the red clay.

I have been promised copies of any papers written about the dig, possibly in about two years. It will be a great pleasure to pass along through this Newsletter what has been revealed about our river and valley.



Guzzle Field Trip, Minas Basin
(East End of Evangeline Beach)
Saturday, July 26, 1986

Sherman Bleakney and Jim Wolford, Leaders

by Sherman Bleakney
Wolfville, N.S.

A nice group of the faithful, the fanatic and the foreign (two from Halifax, one from Springfield) gathered at the Guzzle. From our vantage point on the dyke wall, we consulted our informative hand-out sheets and compared the shoreline of 1759 (with its road to Boot Island) to that of a 1946 air photo and to the present shoreline, and noted the rapid erosion of old salt marsh deposits, great blocks of which were evident on the slopes of the Guzzle channel.

Our walk northward along the west margin of the Guzzle outflow took us back in time to periods of lower sea levels and lesser tidal amplitudes. Remnants of ancient alder thickets; 3100, 3800 and 4400-year-old stumps and trunks of huge hemlock and white pine; 3300-year-old clam shells; and one 3800-year-old oyster valve (probably transported up the Guzzle by winter ice action) were observed. The severity of last winter's ice blocks and tidal action was very evident to those of us familiar with this area. Two of our landmark tree stumps had been torn out, a large tree trunk gouged out and rolled over, and several new long walls of boulders formed.

Upon and within these ancient layers of clay, peat and forest were many living organisms. First and foremost were the "zillions" of mud snails (Ilyanassa obsoleta) peppering the wet mud surface as far as the eye could see. Our shovels revealed that just beneath this nutritious slippery surface were "towsens and towsens" of Corophium volutator shrimps (amphipods actually) in U-shaped burrows, as well as bright-red, thread-thin worms (Heteromastus filiformis), and stout-bodied, jawed carnivorous sandworms (Nereis and Glycera), and an even larger, proboscis-shooting, white ribbon worm (Cerebratulus). And written all over the mud flats was mute testimony as to who really cares about all those yucky things, the little trident foot tracks of thousands of shorebirds. The sandpipers had preceded us by several hours, feasting upon worms and crustaceans along the margin of the receding tide. Through the magic of their enigmatic enzymes, those spiny shrimps and wiggle worms become layered fat, the high octane fuel that powers little sandpipers non-stop to Surinam, South America.

Further out from shore, we discovered an unusual clam with a rasping shell (False Angel Wing, Petricola pholadiformis), a clam which burrows into hard clay or sandstone or even excavates burrows in the wood of the ancient sunken forest.

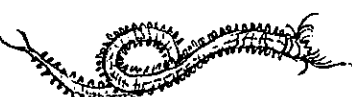
When the tide turned, so did we. By then we had reached an area of fishermen's turn-of-the-century staked gill nets. There are many long rows of the bases of their birch posts protruding from the sandy mud.

Many other marine invertebrates were seen, touched, discussed and discarded. We also buried our faces in a tangled mass of recently dead colonial animals, Flustra foliacea, and drew in deep breaths of that deliciously refreshing lemon aroma. After nearly three hours of exploration, we all had an enhanced appreciation of the innumerable creatures that thoroughly enjoy life within and upon the yummy muds of Minas.

Oh yes, there were a few birds seen by someone sometime during the day - probably seagulls.



Mud Lake Bog
July 27, 1986



by Bernard Forsythe
Wolfville, N.S.

Eight eager naturalists met at 9:00 a.m. in a warm light drizzle for an outing to the sphagnum bog misnamed Mud Lake. Since I knew of two species of orchid in bloom that we would not see at the bog, our leader, Jim Wolford, agreed to stop for a look on the way. The first was the small-flowered, but interesting, tubercled orchid in my yard, and the second the beautiful, large, purple-fringed orchid near Lumsden.

The leisurely stroll to the bog was spent discussing the plant life along the wood road. John Pickwell was very helpful with the ferns, mosses and lichens. Because of the light rain, everything was bright and fresh at the bog, including rose pogonia and calopogon orchids that Jim and I anticipated would be past their best at this late date. The yellow bladderwort, water lilies and the snow-white white-fringed orchids were impressive. Jim showed us the complex

insect life in the water inside the pitcher plant and also identified the many species of shrubs and other plants around the edge of the bog.

There was some bird-life in evidence. Rusty blackbirds were turning over leaves along the edge of the water. Olive-sided flycatchers and grey jays put on a show for us, while the lovely song of the Swainson's thrush came from the woods. There were a few warblers and finches about.

A few days before, Jim and his class had found some rattlesnake plantain along the wood road to the bog. Since I am currently studying this species, we returned by the route Jim and his class had taken but were unsuccessful in finding the rattlesnake plantain. Back at the cars we found plants, such as pyrola and slender ladies'-tresses, we had not seen during our walk. On our way home we stopped along the Methals Road and found two more orchid species, the ragged-fringed and Hooker's orchids. This brought my orchid list for the outing to eleven species: very satisfying for an orchid-lover such as myself. Thus ended a very friendly, enjoyable outing. There were enough breaks in the drizzle so that no one got very wet.

After the group returned to Wolfville, Jim came back to my place to photograph the tubercled orchid. In the little clearing behind my house, he bent over and showed me a ragged-fringed orchid that I did not know was there. I don't think he noticed how embarrassed I was.



BNS/HFN Grand Pre Early Shorebirds
August 3, 1986

by Jim Wolford
Wolfville, N.S.

Perhaps the Halifax Field Naturalists knew we would experience lots of hungry "no-see-ums" and a few "greenheads" (salt-marsh deerflies). In the absence of the HFN, ten of us from BNS had an uneventful but pleasant look at the dykelands and the east end of Evangeline Beach.

This year there are very few open fields for roosting "peeps" and plovers. But one grassy field contained a killdeer, a least sandpiper and a flock of at least 15 whimbrels (Hudsonian curlews).

The whimbrels diverted us long enough that, when we finally reached the beach, the tide was beginning to recede. The large number of "peeps", semipalmated plovers, dowitchers and black-bellied plovers, plus a few sanderlings, were beginning to forage and move away from us. We were unable to detect any Hudsonian godwits, ruddy turnstones or the partial-albino semipalmated sandpiper that I had seen the previous day.

We also noted flowers of sea lavender, Spartina cord-grasses, fireweed, lady's thumb or smartweed, tall white lettuce, ragweed and lots of cabbage butterflies plus a few black swallowtails.

Cadden Beach
(actually St. Catherine's River Beach, in Cadden Bay,
southeast of Port Joll)

August 17, 1986

by Jim Wolford
Wolfville, N.S.

Six of us plus a family from Ontario optimistically braved the overcast skies that were "predicted" to clear that day. They never did, of course. After the two and one-half hour drive, getting to the beach requires about an hour's walk in this Seaside Adjunct to Kejimikujik National Park.

The trail is boggy in several areas and therefore is a good spot for orchids. Bernard Forsythe helped us find and identify five kinds: white-fringed, purple-fringed, ragged-fringed, clubspur and hooded ladies'-tresses. There were also other flowers and an abundance of toads and frogs.

Heavy fog greeted us at the beach and this made all the bird silhouettes appear much larger than their real sizes, confounding the identification problem. We saw nine species of shorebirds (sanderlings were most obvious) but we couldn't locate any of this area's greatest prize, the piping plover. We heard from Steve Flemming that five of these were still there two days previously. He also said they have had very little nesting success this year: bad news for this endangered species.

On the sand-dunes where hungry "greenhead" horseflies joined us for lunch (us!), two kinds of fungi seemed very much out of place (small brown mushrooms and tan cup-fungi). In the riverside sand were two-by-two tracks of an otter.

Common terns were plentiful; fledged juveniles were vocal and apparently still being fed fish by the adults.

On the walk back to the cars, we encountered a couple of "hot spots" for warblers, particularly palm and magnolia.

Finally, along Highway 103 and the New Ross Road, at least fifty nighthawks were seen in loose migrating flocks.

HORTON BLUFF PREHITORIC TRACKS

August 24, 1986

by Roy Bishop
Avonport, N.S.

Some two dozen people left the Acadia Gym parking lot in a caravan of cars at 9:40 am and headed for Sherman William's home at Horton Bluff. As an introduction to the tour, Sherman had arranged several fossil-containing rocks on tables. These rocks were all from the Horton Bluff area (or "Maktomkus" area, as the Micmacs named it for its "black rocks"), and illustrated some of the various tree trunk, grass stem, fish scale, fish spine, rain drop, and amphibian track impressions that are common there.

We then proceeded on foot about half a kilometre westward along the railway tracks, through a barbed-wire fence, across a pasture, through another barbed-wire fence, and down a rough ravine onto the beach. By this time the

threatening sky lived up to its appearance by starting to rain on the group, but fortunately the rain was not heavy and we were only a little soaked before the trip ended. (For the record, the summer of 1986 has been generally wet!)

Among the fossils found in the rocks along the beach during the next hour and a half were four amphibian track-ways (including the large one which received much attention from the Nova Scotia Museum back in 1979), numerous tree stem impressions, and raindrop imprints (both fresh in today's mud, and immediately adjacent, identical dimples in stone made by raindrops on a similar day over three million centuries ago). Sherman also pointed out the geometry of various layers of strata forming the cliffs above the beach and extending outward across the portion of the floor of the Minas Basin exposed by the low tide.

The tour progressed slowly eastward along the beach, past the Horton Bluff lighthouse, and ended with a rather slippery climb up the bank and onto the railway track.

Among various points brought out during the tour were:

(1) Contrary to popular terminology, the tracks at Horton Bluff are not "dinosaur" tracks. Dinosaurs existed in the Mesozoic era, which extended from about 200 to 65 million years before the present. The Horton Bluff shales are much older, about 330 million years old. The amphibians that paddled and dozed in those long-vanished, tepid swamps were among the first animals to emerge from the primeval seas. Dinosaurs and men had not yet been encoded in the delicate, diversifying strands of DNA. The dinosaurs alone were more than 100 million years in the future, as were the small, mammal-like reptiles whose bones are now being collected along the Parrsboro shore.

(2) The Horton Bluff area of those times was nothing like we see today. There was no Horton Bluff, no Blomidon, Minas Basin, or Bay of Fundy. Even the Atlantic Ocean had not yet formed. The area was some sort of great fresh-water, inland, tropical swamp. The trees were fern-like, without the leaves and needles and flowers of modern trees. Only insects ruled the air, for birds were still far in the future. The highest form of intelligence on Earth may have been glimmering in the skulls of the awkward amphibians that left their tracks in the ooze along those ancient shores. A child's fondness for warm mud is possibly a tenuous link over the aeons to those vanished days in the history of life on this planet.

One feeling that emerges from a stroll among the stones of Horton Bluff is how fortunate we are in having such an old record of life on Earth so readily available on our doorstep. This is one of the few places anywhere in which such ancient records are available, and deserves far more attention than it has received to date. On this beach, each year erosion opens new pages from the past. Fragile footprints, tree, grass, fish, ripple-mark, mud-crack, and raindrop impressions are removed from their three-million-century tomb of darkness, briefly revealed once more to the light of day, and then erased forever by wind, waves, and grinding winter ice.



Brier Island
Labour Day Weekend, 1986

by Richard Stern
Kentville, N.S.

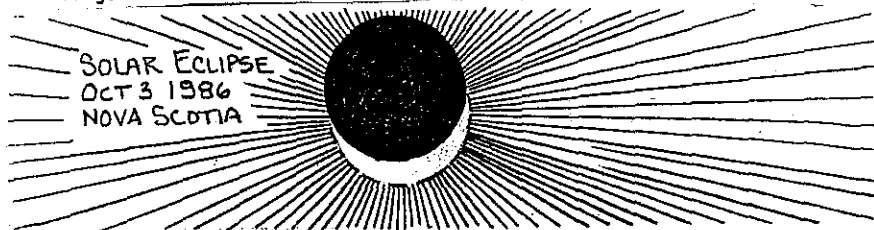
For once the Labour Day weekend was fine, non-stop, all weekend! The only exception was a brief shower on Sunday morning. A number of naturalists, mostly birders, spent varying amounts of time on the Island for various parts of the weekend. The highlight for many was the Saturday afternoon pelagic trip in Harold Graham's Cape Islander, now fitted out for whale-watching. It was quite windy and, on the way out to see the whales, the sea was quite choppy with a swell but nobody was sick. We sailed out to Lurcher Buoy, some two hours out, and on the way passed through huge flocks of seabirds: several hundred Wilson's Storm Petrels, Greater Shearwaters and gulls, a few Sooty Shearwaters, Gannets, and Black-legged Kittiwakes, three Atlantic Puffins (singly, in various plumages), and thousands of Red Phalaropes. Eric Mills also saw a Red-necked Phalarope and a Manx Shearwater.

We finally caught up with one, and then a group of three, Humpback whales travelling together. They treated us to a great display of blowing and tail-fluke waving and a bit of conversing amongst themselves. Research has shown that every Humpback has a different pattern of black and white on its tail flukes and many individuals and family groups have now been identified off Brier Island as well as elsewhere. The whales that summer in the outer Bay of Fundy join with others that summer off Newfoundland and in the Gulf of Maine to winter off Puerto Rico. Some of the whales have been given names by the researchers. One of the three we followed was "Pegasus", recognizable by the all dark tail with white circular patches in the pattern of the constellation Pegasus. This whale is known to have had a calf and is thought to be a grandmother. She had been seen previously in mid-July about fifteen miles on the other side of Brier Island.

The rest of the weekend was enjoyed by different groups and individuals wandering around the Island, mostly looking for birds. There were plenty to see. At Pond Cove, there were many shorebirds including Hudsonian Godwit and Whimbrel and one small "peep" whose long bill caused a lot of argument about its identity; several observers believed it to be a Western Sandpiper. There was also an immature Lark Sparrow at the south end of the Pond. There were many migrating birds on the Island: warblers, other small birds and huge numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches. Some of the latter were behaving more like flycatchers than nuthatches, sallying forth from a prominent treetop to catch insects in the air. A Philadelphia Vireo appeared briefly near our cottage. On the Monday, there was a small hawk migration consisting of Broadwings and three Turkey Vultures.

The clear skies provided some fabulous star-gazing all three nights of the weekend. The Milky Way shone overhead, Jupiter and Mars were brilliant, and numerous constellations could be identified. The Andromeda galaxy could be seen easily. On Saturday night we watched all this to the accompaniment of the lapping of the waves in Pond Cove and a Great Horned Owl hooting nearby.

A great weekend for everyone!



**HFN/BNS - Shorebirds at Grand Pre
September 14, 1986**

by Jim Wolford
Wolfville, N.S.

Six BNS'ers met early to do some dickey-birding before the Halifax gang arrived. At the parking lot we heard a scared flicker and then saw two sharp-shinned hawks and a merlin. So we just walked around the Historic Park.

We didn't see many warblers but there was an abundance of other songbird species. Blue jays were common, some of them in flocks (and on the move?). A brown-plumaged purple finch was trying to sing a bit? A cattail swamp contained lots of molting red-winged blackbirds, some of them looking ridiculous with their tails short or absent. We also saw a harrier, a merlin and an unidentified hawk harassing blackbirds.

In an open dykeland field were black-bellied plovers, golden plovers and knots. But, by the time both clubs united into a nine-car caravan of about 25 people, that field was empty. We drove across the dykelands to a grassy field where we had poor views of black-bellied and golden plovers.

We parked and walked to the east end of Evangeline Beach. On our way, six golden plovers and a harrier flew by. There was a lot of interest shown in various plants still in bloom (lady's thumb, tear-thumb, asters, goldenrods, sea lavender, highwater shrub and eyebright).

We arrived at the beach too early; the tide hadn't receded at all. So we killed time by either walking in the woods (warblers were few and elusive), trying to catch dragonflies, puzzling over flowers, or just lying in the sun. There was a chilly, stiff wind but not at ground level. Eventually along the beach we saw two unidentified terns (unusual in our region), six Hudsonian godwits, 50 black-bellied plovers, five semi-palmated plovers, 25 semipalmated sandpipers, 15 red knots, seven sanderlings and two dunlins.

After the group had disbanded, a few of us noticed two partial-albinos in a large flock of house sparrows back at Grand Pre Park. One had conspicuous white wing-patches and the other was sandy-coloured.

Mushrooming in the Kentville Ravine
September 21, 1986

by Jim Wolford
Wolfville, N.S.

Ken Harrison, Ken Jr. and Nancy Nickerson joined about 20-25 people for this annual search on a beautiful sunny fall day. As usual, we dispersed with our baskets and bags. There were fairly large numbers of fungus species visible everywhere especially under the hemlocks. This has been a banner year for mushrooms, thanks to the cool and very wet weather that most people complained about all "summer" long.

Immediately obvious were oodles of white Lactarius. Coral fungi, horns-of-plenty, and chanterelles of at least 3 kinds were common and there were smaller numbers of many other groups. Among those "others" were tooth fungi, angel's wings, death angels, a green-capped Leotia, several kinds of shelf fungi, etc.

One white pine cone was found with some rare mushrooms on it. One truffle-like underground fungus was collected as were several Cordyceps fungi that grow only on underground fungi.

NATURE REPORTS

TRIVIAL TIDBITS
of Local Natural History

selected and compiled
by Jim Wolford
Wolfville, N.S.

<u>Date</u> (1986)		<u>Obs</u>
May 17	-broad-winged hawks copulating near Bridgewater	RBS
May 19	-vesper sparrow singing near Kentville	RBS
Jun 4	-mourning warbler near Greenfield	JGT
Jun 15	-red crossbill in shrubbery at tip of Cape Split	JGT
Jun 22	-12 white-winged crossbills on Wolfville Ridge	JGT
Jun 25	-a killdeer with 2 baby chicks on gravel roof of Acadia's gym!	CKC
Jun 27	-lots of pine sawfly caterpillars eating needles of planted pines in Wolfville	JW
	-dead and dying elms obvious east of Kennetcook; lots of elm "skeletons" near Wentworth Valley	JW
	-cow moose in a swamp near Green Hill, Pictou County	BBT
Jun 28	-2 oldsquaw ducks at St. Andrews, N.B.	JW
Jul 1	-large tadpoles becoming bullfroglets at Hardwood Lake	JW
Jul 2	-a chimney swift entering chimney of old residence in New Minas	JGT
Jul 4	-pair of eastern bluebirds with 2 fledged young near Sunken Lake (later seen by many observers)	BLF
	-100 male common eiders "on annual migration flight west along Cornwallis River, to St. Mary's Bay (between Weymouth and Digby)"	RBS JGT

Jul 6	-a common moorhen (gallinule) near Brooklyn -at least 100 nighthawks silently foraging over river near Greenfield	BNS HF
Jul 8	-mink frogs common at Bishop's Pond near Sunken Lake	JSB
Jul 9	-8-foot mackerel (or porbeagle) shark caught in net 1/4 mile off Hall's Harbour (reported in newspapers as a blue shark) checked by	JSB
Jul 10	(?) -15 nighthawks over the Gaspereau River for several consecutive nights	EG
Jul 10	-fresh squid eggs on Kingsport tidal flats. An Acadia class found more at Blomidon in mid- September.	JW
Jul 12	-20 white-winged crossbills at Harbourville	JW
Jul 13	-a male redstart feeding a juvenile cowbird at Falmouth	JW
Jul 15	-a family of barred owls foraging for salmon and other fish at Coldbrook Hatchery ponds	ME JG, MG
Jul 15	-same family of bluebirds (see Jul 4) now have a juvenile cowbird sitting with the 2 juvenile bluebirds	BLF
Jul 16	-20 large salmon, up to 3 feet long, in a pool of the Gaspereau River, trapped by low water	EG
Jul 17	-4 nestling merlins were banded at Avonport	BLF
Jul 18	-very probable mockingbird singing in Wolfville	KH
Jul 20	-several clear-winged sphinx moths ("hummingbird moths") active near Gaspereau Lake	TBH
Jul 21	-tiny wood froglets abundant and one red eft (terrestrial newt) at "Mud Lake" bog	JW
Jul 22	-3 red foxes together at Greenfield - skunks also abundant there	HF
	-white ash trees very diseased this year by a rust fungus, near Glenmont and elsewhere (disease appears to be widespread in eastern Valley - ed.)	JW
	-a "singing" mourning dove near Glenmont	JW
	-white strawberry fruits ripe near Gaspereau	EG
Jul 23	-adult bald eagle at Cape Blomidon	JW
Jul 29	-1 or 2 sora rails heard in Canning	BBT
	-a female wood duck near Sheffield Mills	BBT
	-cliff swallow nest with fledged young at Coldbrook	AT
Jul 30	-400 chimney swifts at Front Street dairy chimney in Wolfville	JW
	-large fishing spider carrying a big white egg- sac in its jaws along the Gaspereau River	JW
Aug 2	-one partial-albino semipalmated sandpiper with very white head, neck and breast in a large roosting flock on Evangeline Beach	JW
Aug 3	-15 whimbrels at Grand Pre	BNS
	-along with a group of barn swallows, 5 cedar waxwings skimming the surface of Harris' Pond (Canning) for insects	JW
Aug 4	-at Risser's Beach (Petite Riviere), lots of wolf spiders carrying spiderlings on their backs	JW
	-2 skunks at Grand Pre	BBT
Aug 5	-cicadas calling in Wolfville	JW
	-oodles of transforming leopard froglets at Kentville	JW

- in Kentville, red squirrel dug up a very large white mushroom and, with great difficulty, carried it up a tree and cached it in a crotch JW
- Aug 7 -an immature glaucous gull at Grand Pre was limping a bit and looked unhealthy MT, JW
- 2 large deer on Wolfville Ridge
- Aug 8 -a skunk at Cheverie (and again Sep 20) KLC
- Aug 12 -a right whale at the harbour at Brier Island RBS
- Aug 13 -sharp-shinned hawk being chased by a flock of barn swallows (!) over Wolfville Ridge JGT
- Aug 15 -lots of Caesar's mushrooms at Blomidon AW, CJC
- Canadian burnet in bloom at Scots Bay AW, CJC
- downy rattlesnake-plantain, a "new" orchid species for Nova Scotia, just beginning to bloom (2 sites known) BLF

DRAGGLE

ADAPTED BY I. BOGAN



- Aug 16 -hermit thrush nest still with eggs on South Mountain BLF
- at least 1000 red-winged blackbirds in Canard Valley BBT
- Aug 17 -an extremely large male harrier in Canard Valley JSB, MG
- nighthawks migrating in loose flocks of up to 40 at Cheverie, New Ross & Chester MD, BNS, RBS, JGT
- Aug 18 -groundnut in bloom at Gaspereau EG
- young gaspereau now running seaward in the Black River system EG
- Aug 20 -about 5 nighthawks active in mid-afternoon at Kejimikujik Park (migrants?) PJC
- Aug 21 -last day of 2 weeks of sightings of 2 hummingbirds on Wolfville Ridge JGT
- Aug 23 -2 harbour porpoises in mouth of Cornwallis River (& 2 seen in Minas Basin Sep 18 by GRD) JGT
- Aug 28 -8 nighthawks along highway near Windsor JGT
- chimney swifts still entering dairy chimney on Front Street in Wolfville JGT
- Sep 4 -2 separate polar bears, one swimming in icy water, the other asleep on an iceberg, off Baffin Island! JW
- Sep 5 -a juvenile wood duck near Sheffield Mills (5 wood ducks together there Sep 23 and 7 individuals on Sep 28- could these be a brood? could our sightings this year be related to any releases/escapes from Shubenacadie Park? MT, JW
- 5 whimbrels at Grand Pre BBT
- Sep 6 -adult male wood-pewee feeding 2 fledglings and singing between feedings JGT
- Sep 7 -common snipe on a lawn on Wolfville Ridge JGT

- Sep 8 -2 upland sandpipers at Grand Pre JGT, BBT
- Sep 9 -merlin chasing a small sandpiper at Grand Pre; merlin was unsuccessful but peep may have drowned since it fell into the sea (also several merlins seen by others in mid-Sep) JGT
- Sep 11 -24 golden plovers at Grand Pre JGT
- Sep 13 -lots of horn-of-plenty fungi and other fungi at Kentville TBH
- a single nighthawk over his Canning property became #122 on the list of species for his yard MG
- Sep 14 -2 unidentified terns at Grand Pre BNS
- 2 partial albino house sparrows in a large flock at Grand Pre TBH, MT, JW
- young red-backed salamanders, with bellies still yolky, were still attended by an adult at Ches-Ter Basin; also a camel cricket found there JSB
- Sep 17 -2 pintails at Canard Poultry pond RBS
- white-rumped sandpiper and dunlin at Wolfville RBS
- Sep 19 -7 barn swallows at Canard Poultry pond JGT
- (still there Sep 22) BBT
- Sep 20 -8 whimbrels and 2 merlins at Grand Pre BBT, JGT
- beechdrops in bloom and very abundant at Kentville BNS
- one bright red clump of beechdrops near Gaspereau RM



- Sep 21 -a Baird's sandpiper at Grand Pre JW et al
- a pileated woodpecker on Wolfville Ridge JGT
- Sep 22 -2 gadwalls at Canard Poultry pond BBT
- 6 gadwalls, 20 snipe, and 55 yellowlegs at Harris' Pond in Canning JGT
- 20 pectoral sandpipers at Sheffield Mills BBT, JGT
- a brood of 13 half-grown mallards at Port Williams, with 2 adults? BBT, JT
- flock of 25-30 juncos at Cheverie KLC
- Sep 23 -47 Canada Geese at Canning MG
- skunk eating apples on a Wolfville lawn ST
- Sep 24 -an eastern bluebird near White Rock JGT
- at Cheverie, hundreds of orange fairy cup fungi and many clumps of honey mushrooms KLC
- Sep 25 -shaggy-mane mushrooms on Acadia U. campus JW
- Sep 26 -at White Rock, 80 mergansers and an immature eagle - instead of bothering the ducks, the eagle swooped at the water and caught a fish! JGT
- several flocks of mixed blackbirds and starlings (together several thousand birds) spectacularly wheeling and probably going to roost in the alders at Hennigar's Market in Wolfville JW
- question from Rick Penney: Why are blue jays so incredibly abundant everywhere this year? (And twice this spring Rick saw 3 blue jays hunt, catch and kill a red squirrel - but the jays did not eat the squirrels!) RP

CONTRIBUTORS (thank you all!)

Sherman Bleakney (JSB), Carol Carpenter (CJC), Cyril Coldwell (CKC), Karen Casselman (KLC), Pat and Joe Clifford (PJC), Graham Daborn (GRD), Martha Dodge (MD), Heather Davidson (HD), Mark Elderkin (ME), Bernard Forsythe (BLF), Harold Forsythe (HF), Ellis Gertridge (EG), Jamie Gibson (JG), Merritt Gibson (MG), Mrs. Ken Hill (KH), Tom Herman (TBH), Roseleen MacDonald (RM), Rick Penney (RP), Blomidon Naturalists Society (BNS), Richard Stern (RBS), Anne Trueman (AT), Brenda and Bill Thexton (BBT), Judy and Gordon Tufts (JGT), Jean Timpa (JT), Miriam Tams (MT), Sean Timpa (ST), Anne Woolaver (AW), Jim Wolford (JW).

Birders - A Five-Minute Challenge!

by Merritt Gibson
Canning, N.S.

How many species of birds can you find in five minutes? The following birds were seen (or heard) while I sat on my lawn on Sunday, August 17, 1986, from 1:50 to 1:55 p.m. Two suggestions may help you meet the challenge:

1. Watch for a while before you start listing. My list was started after I had been birding in the backyard for about an hour and I knew the pewee was on top of the poplar, the flycatcher was on the clothesline, the grosbeaks and waxwings were in the honeysuckles and the touch-me-nots were full of Hummingbirds.

2. Wait until something unusual appears and then start timing while you quickly check off the common birds. My list was started while I was watching the Black-and-white Warblers in the pine tree and the Common Yellowthroat and Black-throated Blue Warbler appeared in the shrubs at the foot of the steps.

How many birds can you find in five minutes? (C'mon Brenda!)

Yellow Warbler -----5	Black-capped Chickadee -----3
American Redstart -----3	Tennessee Warbler -----2
Cedar Waxwing -----33	Swainson's Thrush -----1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird 8	Purple Finch -----3
Black-and-white Warbler --4	Eastern Pewee -----1
American Goldfinch -----2	Red-winged Blackbird -----1
Barn Swallow -----2	Gray Catbird -----2
Downy Woodpecker -----1	Common Yellowthroat -----1
American Robin -----2	Black-throated Blue Warbler -1
Herring Gull -----12	European Starling -----6
Least Flycatcher -----1	American Crow (heard) -----1
House Sparrow -----1	Northern Raven (heard) -----1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak ---6	Common Flicker (heard) -----1
Red-eyed Vireo -----2	

Five-minute Totals:

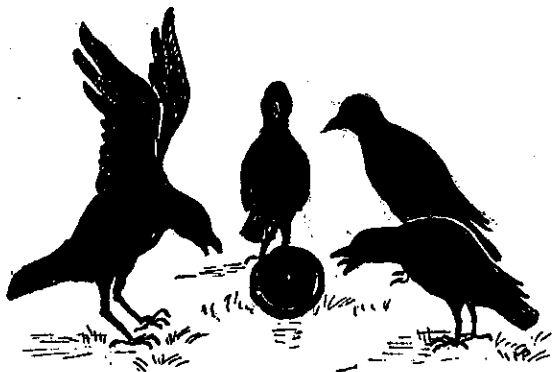
Species = 27

Individuals = 106

Crows and a Baseball

by Jean Timpa
Wolfville, N.S.

On Wednesday morning, August 13th, David, Johnnie and I were walking along the sidewalk west from the Co-op in New Minas. As we approached the next building, a private house, I noticed five or six crows in the yard. I thought it strange that the generally wary crows would be right beside a busy store, in the yard and driveway of a home so close to Highway #1. As we approached the entrance to the driveway, the crows drew back a bit and we noticed that they were pecking at and rolling around a well-used baseball. The bravest crow returned to peck and poke at the ball persistently while we watched. At first we thought it amusing that the crows were "playing baseball" but Davy's explanation that they probably mistook the ball for an egg was likely more correct.



No Non-scents

by Sean Timpa
Wolfville, N.S.

While delivering my papers very early on the morning of September 23rd, I noticed what appeared to be a large black cat under one of Professor John Roscoe's apple trees. But this "cat" had a pointed snout, large bushy tail and two white stripes on its back! No more than ten feet from me, the skunk was searching for food, poking its nose among the fallen apples. It didn't seem to notice me and I was slowly moving away when I accidentally rustled some fallen maple leaves. The skunk tensed its body and pointed its tail straight up in the air but thankfully did not shoot. I continued to retreat quietly and the skunk went back to his business. Later, when the Roscoes were awake, I returned to warn them (through the back fence) of their visitor who was still in the front yard. I have not seen the skunk since.

An Atlasing Bonus

by Jean Timpa
Wolfville, Nova Scotia

On July 30th Sharon Hawboldt and Allison Muntz guided me into a wooded section of our Maritime Breeding Bird Atlas square, primarily to show me the nesting winter wrens they had found earlier. I was anxious to observe them myself to add them to my own Life List. As the biggest of many rainstorms had just passed through the area creating serious washouts, we had to hike, not drive, the two miles along the road to the brush piles that had sheltered the nesting wrens.

By walking we observed much more. Not long after we started, the wood road crossed quite a stretch of bog where there seemed to be swamp sparrows in every few clumps of bushes. On higher ground, an active myrtle (yellow-rumped) warbler was observed on the limb of a pine tree. Sharon and Allison showed me a hole in the gravel bank alongside the road where Gini Proulx, another atlaser, was fairly sure a pair of belted kingfishers had nested but she could not obtain conclusive evidence. To our disappointment everything was quiet so we assumed that, if there had been young, they had left the cavity.

Not long after reaching our destination, Allison spotted a wren darting in and out of the brush piles. It was eating and not singing; it was really too late in the season to expect much song. A small lake nearby harboured a loon and blue-winged teal.

Just as we were settling down for a lunch break on the granite rocks by the water, a largish brown animal was observed swimming and then diving quite close to us.

"Beaver", Sharon and Allison called out simultaneously. I disagreed, somewhat hesitantly, since there was a large beaver lodge on one side of the lake.

"It had a skinny, pointed tail and is brown. Beaver are black when wet. If it surfaces and dives again, watch its tail." No sooner had I finished speaking than a head poked out of the water gazing at us intently and sniffing and snorting to catch our scent.

"Its head is like a seal's", declared Allison.

"Yes, we have an otter", I offered.

Neither Sharon nor Allison had seen otter in the wild before and both were completely enthralled. Then, to add to the excitement, there suddenly appeared two half-grown young otters, one climbing onto the adult otter's back and the other swimming alongside. The young otters took turns clambering onto and sliding off their mother's back. The mother otter continued to dive and sniff and snort back and forth in front of us for a considerable time. Finally the three gradually moved off across the lake having given us a real wilderness thrill. Oh, to have had a movie of this!



Just as we left the lake we spied a tiny partly-grown mouse scurrying blindly about in the leaves looking for food. We offered it some left-over cookie crumbs which it quickly consumed. We speculated that it had been washed out of a nest and we knew it probably would not survive long in its reckless daylight pursuit of food. We toyed with the idea of taking it home but reluctantly concluded that weasels, foxes and hawks had to live too.

A side wood road was explored on the way back so Sharon could show me a large and lovely specimen of Corydalis sempervirens, or Pink Corydalis, in full bloom. As we approached the area we could hear a high-pitched, very beautiful bird song repeated over and over again.

"Wrens, again", I exclaimed, not really being sure I was correct but we finally found them and not only watched them sing but also feed their young. We had found a second winter wren family in our square!

During our walk back on the main road we passed a meadow and brook that had appeared lifeless in the morning. Now an adult belted kingfisher chattered non-stop and appeared on the top of a spruce with a small fish in its beak. It disappeared, scolding wildly, while nestlings called to it from a hole in the bank of a gravel pit. I boosted a reluctant Sharon to the top of the embankment so she could peer into the nest hole located under some overhanging roots. Luck was with us. At least one nestling was close enough to the entrance to be (barely) seen. The nestling was not aggressive at all.

While still at the gravel pit, one of the largest (about three feet) brown garter snakes I have ever seen slithered off.

One of the nicest surprises of the day was the weather. Despite predictions of showers (again), the early mist cleared into one of the few fine days in July - perfect for an action-packed nature walk.

I have been deliberately vague about the exact location of this trip to prevent the otters' location becoming known to trappers. Otter belong in the wild (and in our memories) not on the backs of vain humans.

Christmas Bird Counts - The Changing Scene

by Merritt Gibson
Canning, N.S.

Plans for the 1986 Christmas Bird Count are now being discussed.

The Christmas Bird Count was started in the Wolfville area by Robie Tufts in the late 1920's. It has been conducted annually since then and the yearly reports record a number of interesting changes in the local population of both birds and birders. The counts for each 10th year are listed below.

The most impressive statistic is the increase in the number of participants: 1 (early 1930's), 2 (late 1930's), 8 to 12 (late 1940's and 1950's), 13 to 15 (1960's), 28 (mid-1970's), 44 (1980) and 68 (1985). We hope that the BNS program has encouraged this recent interest in birding.

The list of observers is a "who's-who" of local birders. Robie Tufts conducted the Count during the early years. Later, he and John Erskine recorded the Count "part together and part separated". Rachael, David and Tony Erskine joined the Count during the 1940's. Sherman Bleakney and I took part during the late 1940's and early 1950's, and Lloyd Duncanson participated in 1954. Other BNS'ers and the date they joined the Count are: Peter Smith, 1957; Curtis Chipman, 1963; Cyril Coldwell, 1963; Peter Austin-Smith, 1966; Jean Timpa, 1973; and Bernard Forsythe and the Thextons, 1975. Mary Forbes, Ann Sexton and Eva Urban counted the birds at their feeders for many years.

In 1985 the Count had 27 groups who "observed feeders, walked, skied, snowshoed or drove (as appropriate!) along roads, dykes fields, woodlands and waterways ----" (BNS Newsletter, March 1986). In comparison, the 1935 Count had one observer who "visited the districts south-west and north of the town of Wolfville, which comprise uplands sparsely covered with evergreens, orchards and farms and lowland meadows which skirt the Cornwallis River and tidal marshes".

The increase in the number of observers in recent years permits a more thorough coverage of the area and is the main explanation for the tremendous increase in the number of birds recorded. Nevertheless, several changes have occurred in the local bird population and these are recorded in the Christmas Counts.



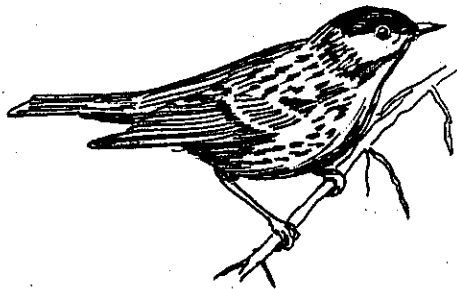
In the 1930's, Evening Grosbeaks were present for a few weeks in the autumn and again in the spring but usually were not present during the winter. The pattern was similar during the 1940's although a few did remain into the winter. No Evening Grosbeaks were recorded in the Wolfville Count in 1945, although 4 were reported in a Count taken that year in Windsor. Small numbers (3 to 7) were recorded during the early 1950's but not consistently; none were observed during the 1956 Count (although they were "seen in the area count period"). Evening Grosbeaks have been observed each year since 1958 and generally in increasing numbers: 68 (1958), 179 (1961), 112 (1975) and 313 (1985). They are now present throughout the year and frequent sightings of young indicate that they have been nesting in Kings County for a number of years. I have a photo taken at Blomidon on August 6, 1970, showing a female feeding a young grosbeak. However the first nest in Kings County was not found until 1983 by Bernard Forsythe at Newtonville.

In The Birds of Nova Scotia, Tufts notes that the "present stand of Pheasants" was introduced beginning in 1935. Additional birds were released later from time to time to maintain the population. During the 1940's, 50's and 60's, Pheasants were recorded in small numbers which showed considerable fluctuation: 4 (1945), 28 (1954), 4 (1962), 20 (1966), and 23 (1970). The population began to increase in 1975: 85 (1975), 133 (1976), 226 (1978), 230 (1983) and 315 (1985) with a peak count of 632 in 1980. Part of this increase reflects the increased number of observers but it is hoped that the consistently high counts in recent years mean that the population is now able to maintain itself. Gray Partridges, first introduced in 1934, have not fared as well and we are lucky if we can find two or three coveys for the Count.

The record for the European Starling belongs in the "believe-it-or-not" category. Imagine having to hunt for starlings! Starlings arrived in Kings County during the mid-1920's but were not recorded in The Christmas Count for 1935. They are listed in the Counts for the 1940's and 50's, when small flocks (often of 8 to 12 birds) were frequently seen. The clouds of starlings that are now seen were not present during the 1940's.

Tufts (The Birds of Nova Scotia) notes that before 1950 the Brown-headed Cowbird was "a rare summer resident, April to October". They first appeared in the Christmas Counts during the 1950's (4 in 1955, 1 in 1958), increased in numbers during the 1960's and 70's (192 in 1960, 796 in 1976) and are now present throughout the year in large numbers: 1285 (1980), 2105 (1984) and 903 (1985).

The increase in the number of American Crows coincides with the establishment of a winter roost within the Count area during the late 1960's. At first there were several small roosts but these joined during the 1970's into one major roost on Boot Island. Do all crows use this roost? Or is it used chiefly by winter visitors with the resident crows remaining on their home territories?



Downy woodpeckers are now present in fairly large numbers: 31 (1981), 41 (1984), 33 (1985). Does this reflect more than an increase in the number of observers? Is it related to the large acreage that is now planted in corn? A pair of downies can be found in many corn fields, searching through the stubble for corn borers and other insects.

Note the changes in the gull counts. They probably reflect changes in the use of agricultural land plus the increased size and number of waste storage sites. Great Black-backed Gulls were rare in the 1930's and 40's, and are

absent from the 1935 and 1945 Counts, although the routes of the observers followed the Cornwallis River. Similarly, the low count of 24 Herring Gulls in 1935 is of interest for the notes which accompany that report read: "The Herring Gulls were seen alighted on the water near a steamer which was loading apples at Port Williams and were readily identified as all belonging to this species". That such a note was necessary suggests that Herring Gulls were not as well-known then as at the present time.

Red-tailed Hawks have been numerous during the past few years: 80 (1983), 110 (1984), 82 (1985). Can you suggest why? They have not been as numerous on the Tantramar Marshes! The Bald Eagles are also more numerous now than in earlier Counts and we should thank Cyril Coldwell and the poultry farmers for providing food for these magnificent birds. On the other hand, where are the Snowy Owls? Snowy Owls were regularly found during the 1940's and 50's.

The 1985 Count listed one House Finch. The range of the House Finch is expanding rapidly. Will it be numerous on the 1995 Count?

The Christmas Bird Counts record a lot of interesting information. I hope you will participate in 1986.

	1935	1945	1955	1965	1975	1985
Number of Observers	1	2	7	15	28	68
Number of Species	15	14	37	48	48	72
Number of Individuals	1104	583	2099	3947	10838	40027

Red-throated Loon						2
Canada Goose				2	18	130
Green-winged Teal						7
American Black Duck		7	87	307	458	1937
Mallard				6	19	39
Common Eider						6
White-winged Scoter						4
Common Goldeneye			18	19	11	12
Hooded Merganser				5		
Common Merganser		4	2	13	30	13
Red-breasted Merganser						1
Bald Eagle			5	2	10	75
Northern Harrier						6
Sharp-shinned Hawk			1	2	2	11
Northern Goshawk					1	1
Red-tailed Hawk			4	3	12	82
Kestrel				1	1	
Merlin						3
Rough-legged Hawk			3	3	3	18
Gray Partridge		6	57		19	21
Ring-necked Pheasant		4	112	15	85	315
Ruffed Grouse		2	1	3	3	4
Common Snipe		2	1	3	8	1

1935 1945 1955 1965 1975 1985

Ring-billed Gull						8
Herring Gull	24	11	294	286	420	4710
Iceland Gull						3
Great Black-backed Gull			15	149	320	1684
Rock Dove				110	848	3515
Mourning Dove						217
Snowy Owl		2		1		
Great Horned Owl						1
Barred Owl						1
Short-eared Owl					2	2
Downy Woodpecker			2	5	11	33
Hairy Woodpecker			2	6	6	19
Pileated Woodpecker						1
Horned Lark			34	17	35	361
Gray Jay						3
Blue Jay	14		61	82	203	405
American Crow	11	245	115	730	3755	14000
Common Raven			109	30	249	380
Black-capped Chickadee		3	8	87	260	335
Boreal Chickadee				6	9	10
Red-breasted Nuthatch	7			1	2	14
White-breasted Nuthatch				10	3	13
Brown Creeper	1		2	2	2	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3		5	35	12	39
American Robin	1	1	2	9	73	17
Northern Mockingbird				2		3
Water Pipit						5
Bohemian Waxwing						58
Cedar Waxwing					7	90
Northern Shrike				1		1
European Starling		32	234	438	1242	5058
American Tree Sparrow	1		7	12	49	168
Chipping Sparrow						1
Savannah Sparrow				22		4
Song Sparrow	1		39	10	21	229
Swamp Sparrow						1
White-throated Sparrow			2	9	7	61
Dark-eyed Junco	11		178	201	266	1242
Lapland Longspur						18
Snow Bunting			66	25	28	278
Red-winged Blackbird						4
Common Grackle				5	3	2
Brown-headed Cowbird			4	385	412	903
Pine Grosbeak	19		1	46	23	87
Purple Finch				8	2	90
House Finch						1
White-winged Crossbill			32			114
Common Redpoll	*		30	35	82	5
Pine Siskind	*		4			18
American Goldfinch	*	16	28	8	20	730
Cardinal					1	
Evening Grosbeak			7	61	112	313
House Sparrow	11	248	433	739	1658	2082

* "approximately 1000 in aggregate" of these three species