



# THE POINT

**NOVEMBER 2016**

**News from Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory**



## FALL SEASON 2016

The Observatory is now closed until April, but we are already planning our Spring Birding Festival, surveys in the South Shore IBA and visits with schools and community events.

We banded 724 Saw-whet Owls, 22 Barred Owls and 5 Long-eared Owls. A summary of this autumn's owl numbers from bander David Okines is available on the [WEBSITE](#). Thank you to David and to our fall assistants Gill Holmes and Jacques Turner-Moss.



## 2016 FALL DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

A big thank you to all of you who supported PEPTBO at our annual Fall Dinner and Silent Auction on October 29 at the Waring House. The committee, under the direction of Mike Parry, did a wonderful job of organizing this sold out event. Guest speaker Jean Iron gave a presentation about the flora and fauna of Iceland and the Canadian Arctic. We are grateful to the many generous [DONORS](#) who supplied items for the silent auction. Over \$6500 was raised to support the work of the Observatory.



(Nora-Lyn Veevers won the Via Rail package in the silent auction)

## NATUREHOOD AT THE BIRD OBSERVATORY

Naturehood is the Observatory's education program. It aims to introduce young people to "nearby nature" through visits to the Bird Observatory and activities at Prince Edward Libraries and schools. The program is administered by Nature Canada with funds from Environment Canada.

This fall we welcomed many Naturehood visitors to the Bird Observatory. Of note were a group of grade two students from Albert College and a high school group from the Quantum program. Both groups were given a tour of the Bird Observatory and learned about avian migration. They had the opportunity to see birds banded and hold some of them in their hands before releasing.

In September the Naturehood program was part of Blanket Day at the Picton Library. The children learned about birds with the "Owls-R-Us, Night Birds, Bones and Beaks" presentation which includes a game about how birds beaks are designed to help them find and eat food.

Over the Thanksgiving Weekend Migration Matters at the Bird Observatory was attended by 50 enthusiastic Northern Saw Whet Owl fans in the evenings. A guided Hike on Thanksgiving Monday was enjoyed by 12 people. Naturehood activities were available for young visitors. We continued to have many visitors throughout the season to see the Northern Saw Whet owls including a tour group from Ottawa.





Our Naturehood program continues through the winter months with project Feeder Watch at local schools and a Christmas Bird Count for kids. Please contact Mark Read at [markdread@gmail.com](mailto:markdread@gmail.com) to enroll your school or youth group in the Naturehood program.

## PLEASE RENEW YOUR PEPtBO MEMBERSHIP TODAY

Because PEPtBO relies completely on volunteers, we are grateful for the generous support of our members. Thank you to all those who have renewed their membership for 2017.

If you haven't done so yet, please renew before the end of the year. Membership allows you to volunteer for banding operations, IBA surveys, vote at our annual AGM, participate on one of our committees, all while supporting the valuable research that PEPtBO performs.

PEPtBO membership makes a great Holiday gift!

It's easy to [RENEW ONLINE](#) or use the [mail-in form](#) .





## FALL WATERFOWL BLITZ REPORT

On Saturday, November 5, a number of volunteers enjoyed a beautiful fall morning counting waterfowl throughout the PEC South Shore IBA. The IBA stretches from Pt. Petre to Prince Edward Pt. and includes South Bay. Most common were White-winged Scoter, Long-tailed Duck, Red-breasted Merganser and gulls. Also present were Bufflehead, Horned Grebe and Common Loon. A Golden Eagle flew over the Observatory and a Dunlin was seen at the lighthouse. Flocks of Cedar Waxwing, Robin and Juncos were also observed along with a variety of migrants.



PEPtBO is the official caretaker of the South Shore IBA and we regularly monitor birds and organize events. If you would like to receive notices of upcoming IBA events please contact Peter Fuller [peptbo.peter@gmail.com](mailto:peptbo.peter@gmail.com)



Horned Grebes(photo: Rick Edgar)



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## WE HAVE CHRISTMAS GIFTS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

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To ensure orders arrive by Christmas, please order before DEC. 10, 2016



The image displays four Christmas cards arranged in a 2x2 grid. The top-left card shows a red cardinal perched on a snow-covered branch with the text "Season's Greetings". The top-right card depicts a white church with a steeple in a snowy landscape, with the text "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year". The bottom-left card features a red cardinal in flight over snow, with the text "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year". The bottom-right card shows a red barn in a snowy field with the text "Season's Greetings".

**Visit Our Online Store To Order Your 2016 PEPTBO Christmas Cards**

Our greeting note cards are of the highest quality. They are glossy on the outside showcasing the beautiful birds and surroundings found at Prince Edward Point.

The inside of each card features an easy to write on, matte finish surface. High quality envelopes are provided.

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