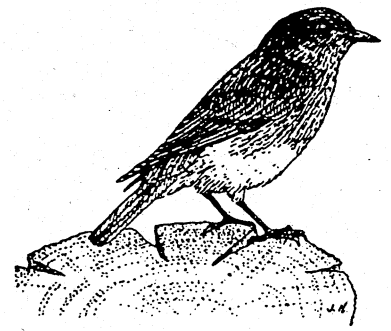


Ontario Eastern Bluebird Society 1996 Spring Newsletter

Editor: Bill Read

2-165 Green Valley Drive, Kitchener, Ontario N2P 1K3



Welcome to the 1996 spring newsletter.

It has been a very long winter with some severe storms in the northeastern part of North America.

Because weather is a major factor in Bluebird survival, we will have to wait until the spring migration is complete before we can assess its impact on Ontario's bluebird population.

Because of the closure of the Waterloo Wellington Environment Canada weather office, I have not been able to get detailed month by month weather data.

The following information is taken from the Globe and Mail of April 5, 1996 and quotes senior climatologist David Phillips of the Environment Canada weather office, "This is turning out to be one of the longest winters in years. With the exception of some parts of British Columbia and the maritimes, we have had five consecutive months of below average temperatures. The first part of April is continuing this trend. Winter came early this year. It's not unusual for us to get well into December before it really settles in for January and February, but this year it came right after the pumpkins came out of the ground in October. By mid December parts of Central Ontario had already received a year's worth of snow". This resulted in large numbers of white tailed deer dying of starvation. Parts of western Canada were hit particularly hard. Winnipeg, which has very cold winters experienced one of its coldest on record.

Fewer reports were received of over wintering EABL's this year. Don Wills who recorded many sightings last winter 1994-95 reported a large flock on November 1, 1995 and no further sightings until February 25, 1996 when two males were spotted. Don said the dry summer resulted in a poorer crop of sumac berries which EABL's depend on for food over the winter. Other reports of over wintering EABL's were received from Port Stanley and in Norfolk county near Port Rowan. Hank Zuzek near Vineland also reported sightings of EABL's over most of the winter.

On March 15, Glen Barrett of the Canadian Wildlife Service and myself spent the day cleaning out kestrel boxes and filling them with 5-6 inches of wood chips to facilitate nesting. A large 40 lb. bag of wood chips can be obtained for about \$4.00 from most large coops or feed mills. It turned out to be quite an eventful day. During the checking of the boxes, we found and banded a gray phase and a red phase screech owl. The red phase is a rarer form of the eastern screech owl. On December 27, 1995 while doing some winter birding, I observed a red phase screech owl with its head out of a kestrel nestbox on McLean School Road near St. George. It was sunning itself and had its eyes closed. When I stopped to observe for a few minutes, it neither moved nor opened its eyes.

When I opened this nestbox on March 15, it was with the expectation of finding this red phase screech owl roosting inside. But no screech owl was to be found, only some blackbird feathers and several owl pellets. It was not until our 23rd nestbox check that we discovered the red phase across from Jay Howell's apple orchard just north of St. George on Howell Road. As soon as we put the ladder up against the nestbox, a red phase screech owl stuck its head out to see what all the disturbance was about and then

quickly pulled itself back inside the box. I cannot say for sure but in all likelihood, it is the same owl I saw December 27th on McLean School Road. This box is about 3 km as the screech owl flies from the Jay Howell box.

It was quite aggressive and not at all keen on its sudden removal from the nestbox.

After banding and photographing and the addition of wood chips, we put the owl back in the box to continue its daytime sleep. Cavity nesting owls should not be released in daylight hours as they can be attacked by crows and other larger birds. In the nest box they feel secure.

Earlier in the day we found a grey phase screech owl in a nestbox near Carluke. This owl had been roosting in the box most of the winter. The box was full of blackbird feathers and over 25 owl pellets.

There were other surprises in the boxes as well. The prey items of the American kestrels and screech owls that had been using the boxes included blackbirds, starlings, blue jay, cardinal and some snow bunting feathers.

Last year the CWS kestrel boxes produced eight successful nestings fledging 30 kestrels. These boxes are mounted on hydro support poles (not live poles) and are protected from climbing predators by a sheet of metal. Special permission was granted from Ontario Hydro for this project.

Bluebirds are very seldom bothered by kestrels and both will nest very close together without any problems.

Last year bluebirds returned very early and some pairs had already laid eggs by April 10th. This cold weather will delay nesting somewhat but this is not necessarily bad for EABL's. Cold spells in late May when nestlings are just about ready to fledge can cause heavy mortality. Make sure you cover all ventilation holes for the 1st nesting; popsicle sticks secured by small screws can be used for this job and then removed easily for the second nesting.

Hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter, the weather will have warmed up and your bluebirds will be nesting successfully.

Bill Read

Ontario Nest Records Scheme

The ONRS is essentially a collection of record cards each detailing one or more visits to an occupied birds nest, a nest under active construction, or to an active nesting colony in Ontario. An article about the ONRS and a nest record card was included in the 1995 OEBS spring newsletter. Additional cards can be obtained by writing the address below.

Eastern Bluebird - a total of 6021 nest cards places it 4th on the ONRS passerine list.

Book Sale - 1/2 Price

Breeding Birds of Ontario: Nidology and Distribution, Vol. 1: Nonpasserines
Breeding Birds of Ontario: Nidology and Distribution, Vol. 2: Passerines

We have a good supply of these books for sale at the ROM for \$40.00 for the set of two volumes. They are detailed summaries of such provincial breeding information as the ONRS files, nest records from the Atlas of Breeding Birds of Ontario, and all other available breeding data. The two volumes contain 708 pages of individual species accounts, each with its own distribution map; egg date charts, numerous line drawings

and 138 photographs of birds, nests and nest habitats. All proceeds from the sales of these volumes will go to the ONRS to help this program continue.

To order a set of these books, contact:

Department of Ornithology, Royal Ontario Museum

100 Queen's Park Cres. Toronto, ON M5S 2C6

Telephone: (416) 586-5519



CAM Regina LeaderPost

1995 OEBS NESTBOX SURVEY

If you have not sent in your 1995 nestbox survey results, there is still time to do so.
I will analyze these results and include with the fall 1996 newsletter.

CAT FACTS

Effects of House Cat Predation on Our Native Wildlife

An Information Bulletin Published By The Ohio Wildlife Rehabilitators Association

While many cat owners may believe that their pet cannot possibly have a significant impact just because it hunts, the cumulative devastation of cat attacks on wildlife is substantial. With many species in danger due to habitat loss, predation by our house cats is yet one more hardship we humans impose on wild animals already struggling to survive.

Consider these studies:

Researchers studying 70 cats in a small English village estimated that pet cats in England were responsible for killing 70 million animals per year, including 20 million wild birds.¹

In a study of radio-collared farm cats in Wisconsin, researchers Stanley Temple and John Coleman estimated that each year cats kill at least 19 million songbirds and 140,000 game birds in the state of Wisconsin.²

A researcher at Point Reyes Bird Observatory in California, noting that there are approximately 55 million cats in the U.S., of which 44 million are

permitted outdoors, suggested that the toll may be as high as 4.4 million songbirds *per day*.³

Cat predation can also negatively impact our native predators, especially hawks and owls. A study in Illinois concluded that cats were taking 5.5 million rodents and 2.5 billion other vertebrates from a 26,000 square mile area, effectively depleting the prey base necessary to sustain wintering raptors and other native predators.⁴

Animal intake data from many wildlife rehabilitation centers across the U.S. corroborates the toll of cat predation that the above findings document.

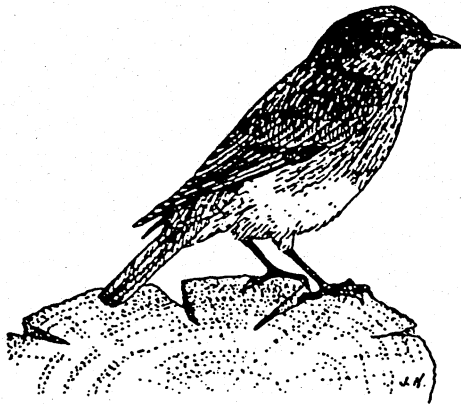
Overwhelmingly, cat predation (including cat attack cases and animals orphaned by cats) is the single largest reason for admission to many wildlife centers, over car and window collisions, oil spills, pesticides, tree felling, and all else.

Unfortunately, the prognosis for recovery of cat attack victims is poor. Typically less than 10-20%

survive. Necropsies of cat attack victims admitted to wildlife rehabilitation centers reveal massive internal hemorrhaging and soft tissue damage from crushing even when external damage appears minor. Also, even small puncture wounds expose the victim to over 60 types of bacteria known to exist in cat saliva.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act protects native birds from being killed or kept by people. Any person who willfully allows his or her cat to injure or kill migratory birds is, in effect, in violation of this federal law. While this may seem like an extreme interpretation of the law, the "sport" hunting of wild animals by our well-fed pet cats is a waste of life and of our wildlife resource. The hope that we can eventually reduce this devastation inspired this publication.

Perhaps the following answers to commonly asked questions about cats and wildlife on the reverse side of this flier will provide some ideas and solutions.



Q. Isn't hunting by cats a natural thing?

A. While it may be "instinctive" for them to hunt, house cats are not native to North America and they cause imbalances in the ecology of an area by killing so many native wild animals. By being at large at any time day or night, they have an advantage over other native wild predators that tend to be either nocturnal or diurnal. Because their population numbers are artificially large due to being kept as pets, cats are also far more common than natural selection would normally allow native predator species, such as fox or bobcat, to be. Predators are supposed to be rare, not abundant, in nature.

Q. Will putting a bell on my cat's collar help?

A. Although neighbourhood adult birds may learn that the bell sound of the local cat represents danger (assuming they escape initially), young birds that are migrating through your yard will still be at risk. Also, many cats are bright enough to figure out how to stalk silently even with a bell.

Q. Aren't well-fed cats less of a threat to wildlife?

A. Because hunting is instinctive for cats, even well-fed cats still hunt. A well-fed pet cat is apt to be more fit, and thus a more successful hunter, than a feral cat that hunts to survive.

Q. My cat just helps keep my garden free of chipmunks. How can this be harmful?

A. It may not be. But particularly in suburban/rural situations, the prey base for hawks and owls may be depleted, and this may

have far-reaching consequences. A study in Maryland found that Cooper's Hawks, which during the nesting season depend heavily on chipmunks to feed their nestlings, were forced to prey more on songbirds during this time if chipmunks were eradicated.⁵ Not only did this put additional pressure on the songbird population, but because of increased hunting time and difficulty the hawks' nestling survival rates suffered.

Q. When are birds more vulnerable to cat attacks?

A. At any time during the nesting season (March through October), both adults, which are harried with nesting duties and try to defend their young, are at risk. Often the female bird is taken while brooding her young on the nest in which case the nestlings will starve to death, if they are not killed as well. Young birds still unable to fly well are at great risk. All birds are also at risk at night, at any time of the year. Birds are night blind and if surprised while asleep are virtually helpless to escape a cat attack. In addition, birds may be vulnerable at birdbaths and/or feeders, if there is low vegetation close by in which cats can hide.

Q. Is there any way to protect my birds at the feeder or birdbath?

A. provide escape cover with brush piles and thorny shrubbery for the birds to fly to, but keep the ground clear under the feeder so that cats cannot hide within pouncing distance. In extreme situations, erecting a circle of 2' tall chicken wire around a feeding station may be effective.

Q. I feel terrible that my cat hunts, but my cat is used to roaming the outdoors and drives me crazy to be let out. Can I train him to stay indoors?

A. It may be hard to break an adult cat of the urge to roam outdoors, but let your cat out as infrequently as possible, gradually increase his stays indoors, and keep him confined to your yard under your observation. Having your cat spayed or neutered will help as well. It's best not to let a cat roam outdoors to start with. A kitten which is not allowed to roam will not expect to do so as an adult, and you will gain a loving pet for many more years. A cat that lives indoors has a long life expectancy. Cats that roam do not. The outdoors is dangerous for cats, too!

Q. How else can I help?

A. Defend your backyard sanctuary against marauding cats. Fencing a yard helps. Repel intruding cats with spray from a garden hose. Speak up in support of laws for your municipality that prohibit cats from running at large on the property of another.

Selected References

- ¹Churcher, J. and Lawton, J. 1987 "Predation by domestic cats in an English village." *Journal of zoology (London)* 212:439-455
- Frink, L. 1994. "Free-ranging cats are decimating our wildlife." *NWRA Quarterly* 12(3):14-15 St. Cloud, MN: National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association
- ⁴George, W. 1974. "Domestic cats as predators and factors in winter shortages of raptor prey." *The Wilson Bulletin* 86(4):384-496.
- ²Harrison, G. 1992. "Is there a killer in your house?" *National Wildlife* 30(6):10-13
- May, R. 1988. "Control of feline delinquency." *Nature (London)* 332:392-393.
- ⁵Mosher, J. 1989. Status reports: accipiters. In *Proceedings of Northeast Raptor Mgmt. Symposium*. Washington, D.C.:National Wildlife Federation.
- ³Stallcup, R. 1991. "Cats take a heavy toll on songbirds/A reversible catastrophe." *The Observer, Spr/Sum* 1991:8-9. Point Reyes, CA: Point Reyes Bird Observatory.

Enjoying Bluebirds More

On Tuesday February 20, 1996, I visited George Coker in Winona. By sheer coincidence, I arrived shortly before noon and was invited to stay for a wonderful lunch and visit by George's wife Nellie.

George showed me a booklet called Enjoying Bluebirds More written by Julie Zickefoose and produced by bird watchers digest. It gives all the essentials of attracting and keeping bluebirds and emphasizes the responsibilities involved including regular monitoring and predator proofing of nestboxes.

George donated \$170 to the OEBS from boxes he has made and sold with more boxes and money to come in. If you have any scrap white pine or cedar lumber, suitable for building more bluebird boxes and would like to donate it, George could use it. See below for address and phone number.

This extra money will be put towards the purchase of enough booklets so that one can be mailed to each current member or each new member that joins OEBS during 1996.

Some Comments on the Book

On page 8, Julie notes that helping is better documented in juvenile bluebirds who frequently return to assist their parents in raising a second or third brood. During about 15 years of bluebirding and over 1000 nestings, I have only documented one female that nested three times in one breeding season. The female was retrapped at each nesting.¹ Probably about 50%-60% of EABL pairs in Ontario attempt second nestings.²

As far as fledged nestlings from first broods assisting in raising a second or third brood, I have only witnessed this activity once - a HY female³ entering a nestbox with food. I had set up a trap to catch and band the adults at this box but the trap did not close properly allowing the bluebird to escape. In one other instance I encountered a HY female and its mother inside a nestbox when I opened it to check the contents. The HY female was from this adult females first nesting. It is possible that this HY female was feeding second brood young, but more probably it was staying in the box for protection until I left. Young from first broods stay in the immediate area while the adults raise a second brood. After the second broods have fledged, they join in a family group to migrate in the fall, since I spend a good deal of time trying to trap most of the adult eastern bluebirds; if this behaviour was happening more frequently, I would have observed it.

The picture on page 10 of the booklet does not illustrate what I would call typical bluebird habitat. The undergrowth is just too high and would be more suitable for house wrens or tree swallows. Also no predator protection is evident in this picture⁴.

1. OEBS Newsletter Page 4, Fall 1993

2. Our Ontario climate does not allow EABL's to attempt third nestings. This happens more in the Southern part of its range.

3. HY (Hatch Year)

4. It is possible that these poles are greased. I have found that raccoons will not climb up a heavily greased T-bar or pole.

Under the nesting schedule on page 13 day 14-22, empty nest soiled, flattened. In very few instances would EABL's be able to fledge successfully at 14 days.

Successful EABL nests are flattened and contain no fecal matter. Adults remove all fecal sacs right up to the time of fledging. Adult tree swallows do not remove fecal sacs for the last two-three days. The young tree swallows deposit the fecal sacs around the periphery of the nest. This is one of the ways you can tell which species used the nestbox if you weren't monitoring it on a regular basis.

If you encounter a nest box that had tree swallow nestlings in it, but now is empty with no fecal matter in the nest material, it could indicate that they fledged prematurely. Tree swallows fly almost expertly after fledging but must be able to assume a perched position so the adults can feed them. Tree swallows fledging prematurely will fly to the ground where their chances for survival are low.

On page 2 no mention is made of Canadian or Provincial societies but instead only American even though bluebirds extend from Canada down to Central America. Overall this is an excellent publication that can be used by every level of bluebirder.

It stresses the responsibility that comes with bluebirding by emphasizing proper monitoring techniques and predator proofing all nestboxes. It will be especially useful for those planning a new bluebird trail.

I recommend it whole-heartedly.

Bill Read

Nestboxes For Sale - George Coker

Over the summer and fall, last year's recipient of the OEBS annual conservation award, George Coker, has built 80 nestboxes (50 regular and 30 Peterson). George is selling these at \$7.00 each with all proceeds to the OEBS. Some t-bars are available at \$1.50 each and George will bolt these to the boxes for you. The same box if bought commercially with T-bar would cost around \$20-25 plus tax. George will show you how to put the T-bar into the ground using a method he has perfected and will also explain how to place and monitor the nestboxes for best results.

George can be contacted at 1-905-643-2033 or write George Coker, 1330 Hwy#8, Winona ON L8E 5K6.

Thanks again, George, for your efforts in support of both EABL's and OEBS.

Eastern Bluebird Migration - High Park Toronto

High Park has always been a good location for fall eastern bluebird watching. The 1995 fall count of 649 EABL's is a good sign of a productive breeding season.

Early observers noted the bluebird to be common or abundant in southern Ontario (Hadfield in Quilliam 1973; Faull 1917; Chamberlain 1887).

Although few observers mentioned actual numbers, Nash (in Barry 1974)⁵ reported seeing "many thousands" passing over Toronto from "west to east" during the spring migration in the early 1900's.⁶

Eastern Bluebirds migrate throughout the fall but peak numbers in most years can be seen from about the 15th October to the end of October depending on the weather. Warm fall weather can delay the migration. Look for the advance of a late October cold front from the northwest which can push them through in good numbers. Bluebirds that reach Lake Ontario and Lake Erie fly west along the lakes until they reach the western end of Lake Erie where they cross into Michigan. Some undoubtedly cross at Point Pelee to Pelee Island and across to the United States.

Bluebirds in the Thunder Bay rainy river area migrate through Minnesota.

They can also be sighted migrating along the eastern shore of Lake Huron. These bluebirds would come from areas in northern Ontario, Manitoulin Island and the Bruce Peninsula. Some bluebirds also cross at Sault Ste. Marie and down through the Michigan Peninsula.

The largest number recorded in recent times was 825 eastern bluebirds seen October 27, 1991 at Holiday Beach near Windsor⁷. A total of 1348 eastern bluebirds were recorded that fall at Holiday Beach.

Bluebirds tend to congregate in late fall at Point Pelee during their migration. Depending on the weather they will stay put until a cold front from the northwest gets them moving again. During the 92nd Audubon Christmas bird count (fall 1991) a record of 102 eastern bluebirds were counted at Point Pelee.⁸

The following early account is taken from Bent.⁹

At Point Pelee, Ontario the migration is often conspicuous; on October 29, 1905, according to Taverner and Swales (1908), bluebirds were there in numbers. *Here numbers were feeding on the bare sand with the Prairie Horned Larks. It was in the waste clearings beyond Gardner's place; however, that the greatest numbers were found. Here they were in flocks almost as dense as blackbirds. When flushed from the ground they generally flew to some of the numerous clumps of bushes growing here and there in the open and, when they lit and were viewed from a little distance, they were in sufficient numbers to give the whole bush a decidedly blueish cast.*

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- 5, 6 Taken from Christopher J. Risley Report on the status of the eastern bluebird. P10, 1984
7. OEBS 1995 Spring Newsletter P7-9.
8. During that same count year, St. Catherines recorded 96 EABL's on its Christmas count.
9. Bent Life Histories of North American Thrushes Kinglets, and their allies 1949 P. 256

The Greater Toronto Raptor Watch

Eastern Bluebirds on Migration, Fall 1995

Data submitted by Norm Murr, Entered by John Barker

Site: High Park Toronto, Ontario

Viewing Period: September 1 to November 30, 1995

	Date	Number	Comments from Norm
	8-Oct	2	
	12-Oct	2	
	13-Oct	2	
	15-Oct	1	
	16-Oct	8	
	17-Oct	68	
	25-Oct	273	132 of the Bluebirds landed on the hill
	26-Oct	56	with us with 55 at once, Twice.
	29-Oct	118	Flying West (31 landed on the Hill)
	3-Nov	19	
	4-Nov	64	
	5-Nov	1	
	8-Nov	4	
	9-Nov	22	
	12-Nov	9	
Total	15	649	
12-10-95			

During the fall of 1995 The Greater Toronto Raptor Watch monitored bird migrations by High Park, Toronto from east to west.

Good numbers of eastern bluebirds can also be seen at other locations along the lower Great Lakes.

Woodlawn Cemetery at the north west end of Burlington Bay is another good spot. ¹⁰ Bluebirds following the Lake Ontario shoreline would continue along the north shore of Burlington Bay through Cootes Paradise and eventually fly south where they would reach Lake Erie and continue their migration.

Indeed any location along the lower great lakes northern or eastern shores can be good for bluebird watching in late October.

If you would like to help out with migration monitoring, write the Greater Toronto Raptor Watch, P.O. Box 14555 75 Bayly Street, West Ajax, Ontario Canada L1S 7L4.

10. On October 29, 1995, Bruce Duncan counted 65 EABL's migrating from east to west.

Banding Retraps - EABL

During 1995 I continued my work to examine the reproductive success of Eastern Bluebirds that nest in apple orchards for the Canadian Wildlife Service . A total of 444 nestling and adult EABL's were banded.

The highlight was the recapture of my oldest breeding female 1391-87455. She was banded as a AHY (After Hatch Year) female June 5, 1989 at the Fisher Apple Orchard. Her productivity was slightly lower in 1995 but she still managed two successful nestings. Two eggs were infertile and may not have been fertilized by the male.

Her mate was a relative adolescent banded as a nestling at Braccio on July 16, 1994 making him 1 year old

F1391-87455 Banded June 5, 1989 at Fisher as AHY (After Hatch Year)

Retrapped	Orchard	# of Nestings	Eggs	Fledged Young	Age
1990	Braccio	2	9	8	2+
1993	Fisher	2	9	9	5+
1994	Braccio	2	9	9	6+
1995	Braccio	2	8	6	7+

The Fisher Apple Orchard is located about 2 km north of the Braccio orchard near Copetown, Ontario.

She has not had an unsuccessful nesting during either her initial banding or any subsequent recapture. I'm sure if she is still alive in 1996, she will again reneat at Braccio.

Bailee Birdathon 1996

Sylvia Van Walsum will again be doing Birdathon during the 2nd weekend in May at Long Point. 25% of the money raised comes back to OEBS and helps to pay for items like the Bluebird Book enclosed in this newsletter.

Please help support Sylvia and OEBS by pledging either a lump sum amount or so much per species. Thanks again for your support.

Send to Sylvia Van Walsum, 5205 Banting Court, Burlington, ON L7L 2Z4

Name and Address of Sponsor	\$ per Species	Flat	Amt Paid	Receipt Please
Pst Code				
Pst Code				

**Registration Form
North American Bluebird Society
19th Annual Meeting
September 12-15, 1996**

Location

The 19th Annual Meeting of the North American Bluebird Society will be hosted by the Ontario Eastern Bluebird Society and held at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington, Ontario Canada. Burlington is located about 45 miles west of Niagara Falls, New York, at the western end of Lake Ontario.

Accommodations

We have reserved 55 rooms at the Admiral Inn - tel #:1-905-529-2311 and at the Visitors Inn - tel#: 1-905-529-6979. Room rates will be around \$56 Canadian plus 8% tax. We will arrange a shuttle bus service to take participants to and from the Royal Botanical Gardens and are asking that bluebirders who are not travelling by car register at the Admiral Inn. For other accommodation information write or phone C. Charlton at R.R.#1, Waterdown, Ontario, Canada L0R 2H1; tel#: 1-905-689-8044.

Meals

Meals will be available at the hotel or several nearby restaurants. Lunch on Saturday September 14 will be available at the Royal Botanical Gardens Restaurant. A complimentary continental breakfast will be served at the RBG for all participants starting at 8:00 am on Saturday.

Travel Directions

Burlington is located about 35 miles southwest of the Toronto International Airport. A detailed map will be included with the confirmation letter.

Camping

Camping is available at Confederation Park, tel #: 1-905-578-1644, which is 10-15 minutes from the Royal Botanical Gardens

Activities

Thursday September 12

- 7:30 p.m. NABS Board of Directors' Meeting

Friday September 13

- 9:00 a.m. Tour of the Canada Centre for Inland Waters, boat tours of Hamilton Harbour. 10am-12pm-2pm - Limit 45 people. 2pm tour of Dundurn Castle. 7:30pm - Royal Botanical Gardens tour - workshop
There are a limited number of spots for the boat tours of Hamilton Harbour. They will be filled in the order they are received.

Saturday September 14

- 8am Continental Breakfast at Royal Botanical Gardens and viewing of displays

- 9am to 2:45 pm NABS Program including talks by many outstanding speakers. Two talks will be given simultaneously, so choices must be made. Speakers include: NABS Research Chairman Kevin L. Berner; Dr. Chris Darling, Entomologist, Royal Ontario Museum; Purple Martin Conservation Organization founder James R. Hill, Canadian wildlife biologist Nancy Mahoney; photographer of cavity nesters Marie Zorn; & Ellis Bird Farm of Alberta's Myrna Pearman on cavity nesting waterfowl.

- 6:30 pm Evening Banquet and presentations - Royal Botanical Gardens
The feature speaker will be Mrs. Kay McKeever from The Owl Foundation. Her talk will focus on owl behaviour.

Sunday September 15

- 7:45 am Field Trips: one all day to Port Stanley to observe Hawk migration, limit 20; one all day to the Long Point Bird Observatory on Lake Erie to observe banding of migratory songbirds, limit 20. *Extra fee on these two to cover bus and box lunch.* Two half-day field trips: local birding by car-pool, limit 20; rehabilitation of Cootes Paradise, car-pool, limit 20, field trip with Bill Read and Joe Vynaka to apple orchards where pesticide effects on bluebirds and Tree Swallows are studied, car-pool, limit 20.

Tear off form to be sent in

REGISTRATION FORM

REGISTRATION FORM

	Fee		# of Persons		Total
Conference Registration	\$30.00	X	_____		_____
Early Bird - by July 15	\$25.00	X	_____		_____
Meals					
Saturday - Continental Breakfast included with registration					
Lunch RBG	\$10.00	X	_____		_____
Banquet RBG	\$27.00	X	_____		_____
Sunday - Field Trip - #1 Port Stanley	\$25.00	X	_____		_____
- Field Trip - #2 Long Point	\$25.00	X	_____		_____
Total			_____		_____
Friday Boat tour of Hamilton Harbour	Yes ___	No ___			10 am 12 pm 2 pm Circle time

Saturday Speakers - Circle your choice of speaker at each time slot:

- A. 10:00 a.m. - Berner - Nestbox design max. 80 people
- B. 10:00 a.m. - Uyenaka, Bishop - Pesticide study - max. 80 people
- C. 11:00 a.m. - M. Measure - Fatal Light Awareness Program - max. 80 people
- D. 11:00 a.m. - Dr. Chris Darling - Blowflies - max. 80 people
- E. 1:30 p.m. - James R. Hill - Purple Martins - max. 80 people
- F. 1:30 p.m. - N. Mahoney - Black Capped Chickadees - max. 80 people
- G. 2:45 p.m. - M. Zorn - Photography - max. 80 people
- H. 2:45 p.m. - Cavity nesting Waterfowl @ Ellis Bird Farm - M. Pearman - max. 80 people

Sunday Field Trip Choice - Select your order of choices by putting 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Fee must be included for 1 or 2.

- _____ Hawk Migration #1 Port Stanley \$25.00 includes bus fee and box lunch
- _____ Long Point #2 Long Point Bird Observatory \$25.00 includes bus and box lunch
- _____ Birding Tour Local
- _____ Cootes Paradise Rehabilitation
- _____ Pesticide study Field Trip

Because some trips may prove more popular than others, they will be filled in order of registration. Insufficient interest may necessitate its cancellation - there may be additional field trips added after this list is printed.

Please send Registration to:

Bette Jean Martin
 176 Stoke Drive
 Kitchener, Ontario CANADA
 N2N 2C1

Make cheques payable to: **ONTARIO EASTERN BLUEBIRD SOCIETY**

PLEASE MAKE SEPARATE RESERVATIONS AT THE HOTEL YOU DECIDE ON FROM ABOVE LISTING.

Note: Please register as early as possible to assist OEBS in planning this conference.