

OFO Convention & AGM Point Pelee

Field Trips, Displays
Banquet, Guest Speaker

Friday, Saturday and Sunday
27 - 29 September 2013



White-breasted Nuthatch by Peter Burke

Ontario Field Ornithologists

Join us for three days of birding, celebration and enjoyment in one of Canada's premier National Parks with some of Ontario's top birders. See migrating songbirds, waterfowl, shorebirds and raptors. Meet old friends and make new pals. We hope to see you there!

Note that Field Trips are for Convention registrants only.

Friday 27 September Field Trips

- 7:30 – 3:00** **St. Clair National Wildlife Area:** Drive to St. Clair NWA in search of marsh birds and migrants. Meet at Roma Club parking lot.
- 7:30 – 11:30** **Birding at Point Pelee National Park:** A hike to the tip, and along the many trails in the park, to look for fall migrants. Meet at the Point Pelee National Park Visitor Centre.
- 7:30 – 11:30** **Point Pelee Birding Area:** Tour local hotspots including Hillman Marsh, the onion fields and Wheatley Harbour. Meet at the Roma Club parking lot.
- 8:00 – 11:30** **Objibway Nature Centre:** Tour the nature reserve with Paul Pratt and look for grassland birds and other migrant passerines. Meet at the Objibway Nature Centre Visitor Centre.
- Lunch** Bring your own or enjoy one of the many fine restaurants in the area.
- 1:00 - 3:30** **Birding at Point Pelee National Park:** A hike to the tip, and along the many trails in the park, to look for fall migrants. Meet at the Point Pelee National Park Visitor Centre.
- 1:00 - 3:30** **Holiday Beach Conservation Area:** Drive to Holiday Beach to look for migrant passerines and raptors. Meet at the Holiday Beach Hawk Tower
- 1:00 - 3:30** **Paddle through Point Pelee Marsh:** Enjoy a guided paddle through the marsh in search of skulking marsh birds. Meet at the Marsh Boardwalk. (Space limited - pre-registration required. Rent a kayak \$25, rent a canoe \$10 or bring your own boat.)
- 1:00 - 3:30** **Point Pelee Birding Area:** Tour local hotspots including Hillman Marsh, the onion fields and Wheatley Harbour. Meet at the Roma Club parking lot.

Friday Evening "Birds and Beers"

5:00 - 9:00 p.m. Pelee Days Inn, 566 Bevel Line Rd., Leamington

Enjoy an evening mingling with your fellow birders and test your birding skills against a panel of noted experts! Buffet dinner requires pre-registration but you can choose to eat elsewhere and attend the presentation only.

- 5:00 - 6:00** Doors open and cash bar
eBird Workshop
- 6:00 - 7:30** Buffet dinner (Pre-registration required for dinner only - you can choose to eat elsewhere and attend the presentation only.)
- 7:30 - 9:00** **How well do you know birds?** with MC Sarah Rupert

Saturday 28 September Field Trips

- 7:30 – 3:00** **St. Clair National Wildlife Area:** Drive to St. Clair NWA in search of marsh birds and migrants. Meet at Roma Club parking lot.
- 7:30 – 3:00** **Holiday Beach Conservation Area:** Drive to Holiday Beach to look for migrant passerines and raptors. Meet at the Roma Club parking lot.

7:30 – 11:30 **Birding at Point Pelee National Park with Greg Miller:** A hike to the tip, and along the many trails in the park, to look for fall migrants. Meet at the Point Pelee National Park Visitor Centre.

Saturday 28 September Field Trips, continued

7:30 – 11:30 **Young Birder's Hike at Point Pelee National Park:** A hike for birders under 19 years of age. Meet at the Point Pelee National Park Visitor Centre.

8:00 – 11:30 **Objibway Nature Centre:** Tour the nature reserve with Paul Pratt and look for grassland birds and other migrant passerines. Meet at the Objibway Nature Centre Visitor Centre.

Lunch Bring your own or enjoy one of the many fine restaurants in the area.

12:00 - 3:30 **The Big Year and Birding at Point Pelee National Park:** Join Greg Miller for a narrated viewing of "The Big Year" followed by a hike. Meet at the Point Pelee National Park Visitor Centre Theatre.

1:00 - 3:30 **Paddle through Point Pelee Marsh:** Enjoy a guided paddle through the marsh in search of skulking marsh birds. Meet at the Marsh Boardwalk. (Space limited - pre-registration required. Rent a kayak \$25, rent a canoe \$10 or bring your own boat.)

1:00 - 3:30 **Point Pelee Birding Area:** Tour local hotspots including Hillman Marsh, the onion fields and Wheatley Harbour. Meet at the Roma Club parking lot.

1:00 - 3:30 **Odonata Field Workshop:** Search the park for late dragonflies and damselflies. Learn identification tips for these stunning creatures. Meet at the Point Pelee National Park Visitor Centre.

1:00 - 3:30 **Drawing Birds in the Field:** Join noted artist Peter Burke and learn techniques for drawing birds. Paper and pencils will be supplied or bring your own materials. No previous experience necessary. (Space limited - pre-registration required.)

2:00 - 3:00 **eBird Workshop:** Join BSC for a guided tour of eBird and its many benefits in the Point Pelee National Park Visitor Centre Theatre following the "The Big Year" screening.

Saturday Evening Banquet & Displays

Portuguese Club, 217 Talbot W., Leamington

4:00 - 6:00 Displays and Cash Bar

6:00 - 7:30 Dinner & Prize Draw

7:30 - 10:00 Master of Ceremonies: *Ron Tozer*

- Welcome Remarks and Checklist Tally
- OFO Annual General Meeting: OFO President *Robert Maciver*
- Distinguished Ornithologist Award to *Jon McCracken* presented by *Erica Dunn*
- Keynote Speaker *Greg Miller: The Big Year*

Banquet Menu

Antipasto Platter

Chicken Noodle Soup

Penne with Tomato Basil Sauce

Roasted Chicken with Potatoes Parisienne and Vegetable Medley

Lemon Meringue Pie

Vegetarian, vegan or gluten or lactose-free available by request on registration form

Sunday 29 September Field Trips

- 8:30 – 3:00** **Rondeau Prov. Park then Blenheim Sewage Lagoons:** Join the group at 8:30 a.m. at Rondeau's Visitor Centre; or later at 1:00 p.m. at the entrance to the Blenheim sewage lagoons.
- 7:30 – 9:30** **Paddle through Point Pelee Marsh:** Enjoy a guided paddle through the marsh in search of skulking marsh birds. Meet at the Marsh Boardwalk. (Space limited - pre-registration required. Rent a kayak \$25, rent a canoe \$10 or bring your own boat.) After the paddle, attend a workshop or join a hike.
- 7:30 – 11:30** **Birding and Odonata at Point Pelee National Park:** Hike to the tip and along the many trails in the park, to look for fall migrants and dragonflies. Meet at the Point Pelee National Park Visitor Centre.
- 7:30 – 11:30** **Point Pelee Birding Area:** Tour local hotspots including Hillman Marsh, the onion fields and Wheatley Harbour. Meet at the Roma Club parking lot.
- 7:30 – 11:30** **Young Birder's Hike at Point Pelee National Park:** A hike for birders under 19 years of age. Meet at the Point Pelee National Park Visitor Centre.
- 10:00 – 11:30** **Drawing Birds in the Field:** Join noted artist Peter Burke and learn tips and techniques for drawing birds. Paper and pencils will be supplied or bring your own favourite materials. No previous experience necessary. (Space limited - pre-registration required)

Banquet Speaker and Trip Leaders

Greg Miller is this year's keynote speaker. In 1998 he zigzagged across the continent traveling 130,000 miles to try to see as many species of birds in one calendar year as possible. He was featured in the book *The Big Year* and he served as Bird Consultant to *The Big Year* movie. He is currently much in demand as a trip leader and speaker.

Ron Tozer is Banquet MC and a veteran field trip leader in Algonquin Park, where he was park naturalist for many years. Formerly co-editor of *Ontario Birds* and Chair of the OBRC, his book *The Birds of Algonquin Park* was published in 2012.

Trip Leaders: A strong team of experienced field trip leaders will be on hand to head the outings.

Where to Stay

OFO has arranged for blocks of rooms at the *Comfort Inn*, 279 Erie St S, Leamington, 519-326-9071 and *Pelee Days Inn*, 566 Bevel Line Rd, Leamington, 519-326-8646. Ask for the "OFO Convention rate".

A group campsite has been reserved at Point Pelee National Park for September 27 & 28 where OFO members can camp for a nominal fee. Please contact the park at 519-322-2365 or pelee.info@pc.gc.ca to reserve your spot.

Or stay in one of the other fine motels or bed and breakfasts in the area.

Displays and Door Prizes

Tables are available for displays of bird related products or services. Those who would like a table are asked to make a \$15 donation or provide a nice door prize. If you'd like to reserve a table or donate a prize contact Dave Milsom at 905-857-2235 or milsomdave@hotmail.com

Nominations for OFO Board of Directors

Know someone who would be a good director? Nominations should be submitted by August 31, 2013 to Robert Maciver, OFO President, phone (519) 260-0729 or e-mail: robert.maciver@gmail.com

More Info or Questions?

Online registration, descriptions of field trips and trip leaders are posted on the OFO website at www.ofo.ca or for more information please contact Lynne Freeman at lynnef.to@gmail.com or 416-463-9540.

Registration

***\$50 per person includes Saturday Banquet, Program and Field Trips (\$35 for Young Birders 19 years old or under)
 \$25 per person for Friday Buffet Meal (Cash bar and presentation is open to all but meal must be paid in advance)***

**Register online at www.ofo.ca or send this registration form and cheque payable to Ontario Field Ornithologists to:
 Brian Gibbon, 3269 Dobson Rd., RR#2, Barrie ON, L4M 4S4**

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Convention and Banquet Registration

Participant(s) _____ x \$50.00 = \$) _____ Young Birder(s)) _____ x \$35.00 = \$ _____

Banquet special meal(s): *Vegetarian*) _____ *Vegan*) _____ *Lactose-free* _____ *Gluten-free* _____

Friday Evening Buffet _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____ (Vegetarian and Gluten-free items available)

Help us plan our field trips - please check those you might attend:

Friday Full Day	Saturday Afternoon
<input type="checkbox"/> St. Clair National Wildlife Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Birding at Point Pelee National Park
Friday Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Point Pelee Birding Area
<input type="checkbox"/> Birding at Point Pelee National Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Kayak through Point Pelee Marsh
<input type="checkbox"/> Point Pelee Birding Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Odonata Field Workshop
<input type="checkbox"/> Ojibway Nature Centre	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing Birds in the Field
Friday Afternoon	Sunday Morning
<input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Beach Conservation Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Rondeau
<input type="checkbox"/> Kayak through Point Pelee Marsh	<input type="checkbox"/> Birding and Odonata at Point Pelee National Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Birding at Point Pelee National Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Point Pelee Birding Area
<input type="checkbox"/> Point Pelee Birding Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Kayak through Point Pelee Marsh
Saturday Full Day	<input type="checkbox"/> Young Birders Hike
<input type="checkbox"/> St. Clair National Wildlife Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing Birds in the Field
<input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Beach Conservation Area	Sunday Afternoon
Saturday Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Blenheim Sewage Lagoons
<input type="checkbox"/> Birding at Point Pelee National Park with Greg Miller	
<input type="checkbox"/> Point Pelee Birding Area	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ojibway Nature Centre	
<input type="checkbox"/> Young Birders Hike	
<input type="checkbox"/> Presqu'ile Marsh Boardwalk	
<input type="checkbox"/> Young Birders Hike	