

## *Green Team's Baillie Birdathon May 12, 2012*



Left to Right: Richard Beauchamp, **Michel Beaupré**, **Simon Duval**, **James Junda**, **Barbara Frei**, **Louise Gagné**, **Francine Marcoux**, **Barbara MacDuff** (Team members in bold.)

The morning was perfect for the seven participants of the McGill Bird Observatory's Green Team, who took part in the Baillie Birdathon on May 12, 2012.

The day began with clear blue skies, pleasant temperatures and newly arrived birds singing all around us.

We started the Birdathon at 6:25 by doing census for the MBO. That hour-long walk gave us 45 species, including a Rusty Blackbird, a great start to the morning.

Then it was off to the "Pines" in the Morgan Arboretum with hopes of finding a Pine Warbler. A Chipping Sparrow, with a similar song, made the search difficult but we were finally rewarded with a glimpse of our "target bird."

Hopes were elevated as we headed into the forest. The woods were gorgeous with the brilliant green of new foliage, fresh ferns and carpets of Trilliums. Added to that was the singing of Black-throated Green and Black-throated Blue Warblers as well as the "teacher teacher" call of the Ovenbird.

It was here that we saw a huge flock of Snow Geese sparkling white against the cerulean sky.

We began to feel the heat of the day as we left the woods and entered the fields but were pleased to find Indigo Bunting and Bobolink.

A nearby small pond had Barn and Bank Swallows, but much to our disappointment, no Green Heron or Belted Kingfisher.

It was time to get out of the sun and have lunch so we headed back to the MBO. We were all tired but our list was missing Rock Pigeon and House Sparrow, so we continued on and were ecstatic to find the birds. A Chimney Swift was a bonus which brought our total to a satisfying eighty-nine species.

## ***Baillie List 2012***

Common Loon 1	House Wren 8
Double-crested Cormorant 9	Golden-crowned Kinglet 1
Great Blue Heron 1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet 2
Turkey Vulture 2	American Robin 6
Snow Goose 60	Gray Catbird 1
Canada Goose 4	Brown Thrasher 1
Wood Duck 10	European Starling 8
Mallard 5	American Pipit 6
Osprey 1	Cedar Waxwing 1
Northern Harrier 1	Tennessee Warbler 1
Sharp-shinned Hawk 1	Nashville Warbler 4
Red-shouldered Hawk 2	Northern Parula 1
Red-tailed Hawk 2	Yellow Warbler 15
Killdeer 1	Chestnut-sided Warbler 2
Greater Yellowlegs 1	Magnolia Warbler 3
Lesser Yellowlegs 1	Cape may Warbler 4
Solitary Sandpiper 2	Black-throated Blue Warbler 3
Ring-billed Gull 12	Yellow-rumped Warbler 25
Common Tern 4	Black-throated Green Warbler 5
Rock Pigeon 6	Blackburnian Warbler 1
Mourning Dove 1	Pine Warbler 1
Chimney Swift 1	Palm Warbler 1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird 1	Black-and-white Warbler 4
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1	Ovenbird 4
Downy Woodpecker 2	Common Yellowthroat 2
Hairy Woodpecker 2	Chipping Sparrow 6
Northern Flicker 1	Savannah Sparrow 3
Pileated Woodpecker 1	Song Sparrow 8
Least Flycatcher 1	Swamp Sparrow 1
Eastern Phoebe 1	White-throated Sparrow 10
Great-crested Flycatcher 8	White-crowned Sparrow 1
Eastern Kingbird 2	Northern Cardinal 8
Blue-headed Vireo 1	Rose-breasted Grosbeak 4
Warbling Vireo 5	Indigo Bunting 1
Red-eyed Vireo 1	Bobolink 1
Blue Jay 5	Red-winged Blackbird 60
American Crow 15	Rusty Blackbird 1
Common Raven 1	Common Grackle 12
Tree Swallow 8	Brown-headed Cowbird 4
Bank Swallow 4	Baltimore Oriole 9
Cliff Swallow 4	Purple Finch 2
Barn Swallow 6	Pine Siskin 3
Black-capped Chickadee 16	American Goldfinch 8
Red-breasted Nuthatch 1	House Sparrow 4
White-breasted Nuthatch 1	