

# The Red-eyed Wearios- Baillie Birdathon Report Long Point, ON

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May12, 2012

## Report of the Long Point Team

We arrived in Port Rowan, Long Point south of Woodstock, Ontario several days before the day of our Birdathon.

This gave us several days to get a feel of what resident birds we could expect to see as well as which birds should be migrating through. We were enjoying the migration and putting in twelve hour days birding. Our alarm went off at 6a.m.and we were out the door at 6:30 with a muffin and a box of juice and a promise of a big breakfast to come after our morning birding. Before leaving our campground, we had seen American Robin, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Baltimore and Orchard Orioles, Mourning Dove, Black-capped Chickadee and Song Sparrow, not a bad start for a drive out of the property.



Orchard Orioles

Photo: Sue Bishop

On the trip south to Causeway we picked up Tree Swallows, Killdeer and Purple Martins.

A two-minute stop at the Big Creek National Wildlife Area produced Great Blue Heron, Yellow warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Marsh Wren, Mute Swan, American Coot and Swamp Sparrow.

We next headed for Long Point Bird Observatory on Old Cut Blvd. where we saw a beautiful Red-headed Woodpecker near the parking area. The trees and shrubs at LPBO were alive with birds and birders as the LPBO Team was also doing their Birdathon the same day.

Here we were lucky to get a Black-billed Cuckoo, and many warbler species such as Black-throated Blue and Black-throated Green Warblers, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler and Wood Thrush and Scarlet Tanager and many others.

We learned that it is a good idea to buy an Ontario Provincial Parks summer pass as certain campsites within the “new” Long Point Provincial Park are a magnet for tired migrants. The pass allows us to visit these sites as often as we wish so warblers which were there in the morning may be replaced by other species in the late afternoon.

By 8:10 we had seen forty-eight species. It was time to go to The “old” Long Point Provincial Park where we got Hooded Warbler, Philadelphia Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Indigo Bunting, Carolina Wren and many more.



Bay-breasted Warbler

Photo: Sue Bishop

Before heading home for brunch, we decided to look for gulls and terns on Hastings Drive along the shores of Lake Erie. We were fortunate to see Bonaparte’s Gull, Forster’s Tern, Common Tern and Caspian Tern. It was time for a forty minute brake. The Bald Eagle we had seen here the previous day was not to be counted.

After lunch we headed for Port Royal where we could rely on seeing Cliff Swallows. We headed on to Lee Brown Waterfowl Management Area and Concession A where we were hoping to see the Eastern Screech Owl but it didn’t look out of its nest box. On the First Concession, we stopped at a grassy field to get the Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark.

We continued toward the Wilson Tract along a dusty road. Three Wild Turkeys ran across the dry field and into the Carolinian forest. The dry fields also revealed a Vesper Sparrow.

Behind Bird studies Canada Headquarters in Port Rowan, we were able to see several species of ducks including Ruddy Duck, Bufflehead and Greater and Lesser Scaup.

A walk along the path behind the St. Williams Forestry Farm Interpretive Centre produced Red-Shouldered Hawk and Chimney Swifts.

By 3:30 p.m. we surprised ourselves by having observed one hundred species.

There was still much habitat to cover.

By 7:30 p.m., we had driven one hundred and twenty km and covered a considerable distance by foot.

Our last stop was to the Crown Marsh Trail for the American Bittern.

## The Long Point Team



Sue Bishop



Ahmad Shah

Below is a list of all species observed by Ahmad Shah and Sue Bishop.

- 1 ) Common Grackle
- 2) Mourning Dove
- 3) Baltimore Oriole
- 4) American Robin
- 5) Black-capped chickadee
- 6) House Sparrow
- 7) Red-bellied Woodpecker
- 8) Warbling Vireo
- 9) Brown-headed Cowbird
- 10) Song Sparrow
- 11) American Crow
- 12) Killdeer
- 13) Red-winged Blackbird
- 14) Barn Swallow
- 15) Canada Goose
- 16) European Starling
- 17) Tree Swallow
- 18) Yellow Warbler
- 19) Common Yellowthroat
- 20) Purple Martin
- 21) Ringed-billed Gull
- 22) Marsh Wren
- 23) Mute swan
- 24) Great Blue Heron
- 25) Red-eyed Vireo
- 26) House Wren
- 27) Northern Cardinal
- 28) Eastern Wood Peewee
- 29) Blue Jay
- 30) Black-and-white Warbler
- 31) Magnolia warbler
- 32) Black-Throated Green Warbler
- 33) Eastern Kingbird
- 34) Black-billed Cuckoo
- 35) Wood Thrush
- 36) White-throated sparrow
- 37) Chipping Sparrow
- 38) American Goldfinch
- 39) Turkey Vulture
- 40) Scarlet tanager
- 41) Swainson's Thrush
- 42) Carolina Wren
- 43) Bay-breasted warbler
- 44) Black-throated Blue Warbler
- 45) Chestnut-sided warbler
- 46) Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- 47) Red-headed woodpecker
- 48) Least Flycatcher

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|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 49) Field sparrow             | 71) Hooded Warbler           | 92) Northern Flicker     |
| 50) Blackburnian Warbler      | 72) Great Black-backed Gull  | 93) Pied-billed Grebe    |
| 51) Gray Catbird              | 73) Forster's tern           | 94) Belted Kingfisher    |
| 52) Tennessee warbler         | 74) Swamp Sparrow            | 95) Bufflehead           |
| 53) Blue-gray gnatcatcher     | 75) Caspian Tern             | 96) Greater Scaup        |
| 54) Common Loon               | 76) Bonaparte's Gull         | 97) Lesser Scaup         |
| 55) Herring Gull              | 77) Common Tern              | 98) Ruddy Duck           |
| 56) Philadelphia Vireo        | 78) American Coot            | 99) Eastern Bluebird     |
| 57) American Redstart         | 79) Cliff Swallow            | 100) Indigo Bunting      |
| 58) Yellow-rumped Warbler     | 80) Rock Pigeon              | 101) Spotted Sandpiper   |
| 59) Blue-headed Vireo         | 81) Green Heron              | 102) Red-shouldered Hawk |
| 60) Northern Parula           | 82) Least Sandpiper          | 103) Chimney Swift       |
| 61) Ruby-crowned Kinglet      | 83) Semi-palmated Sandpiper  | 104) Wild Turkey         |
| 62) Nashville Warbler         | 84) Sanderling               | 105) Cape May warbler    |
| 63) White-crowned Sparrow     | 85) Horned Lark              | 106) Black Tern          |
| 64) Savannah Sparrow          | 86) Greater yellowlegs       | 107) Wood Duck           |
| 65) Eastern Towhee            | 87) Great Crested Flycatcher | 108) American Bittern    |
| 66) Eastern Phoebe            | 88) Pectoral Sandpiper       | 109) Sandhill Crane      |
| 68) Veery                     | 89) Eastern Meadowlark       | 110) Mallard             |
| 69) Ruby-throated Hummingbird | 90) Bobolink                 |                          |
| 70) Ovenbird                  | 91) House Finch              |                          |



Sandhill Crane

Photo: Ahmad Shah