

The Point

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Spring 2008

"Dedicated to the study of ornithology through participation in the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network"

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A parliament of owls

Records fall with the leaves as saw-whets fill our nets

by David Okines and Wallace Rendell

Fall 2007 was a unique banding season for us at the observatory. Migrant birds of all species poured into our nets, but none so frequently as the Northern Saw-whet Owl. By the end of the season we had banded 1518 saw-whets, *the most done in a season at a single station anywhere in North America!* This total is approximately twice the number of saw-whets we normally band during the fall.

The first sign this was to be an unusual season came in September. An attempt to catch local Eastern Screech Owls on the night of 16-17 September was successful when one screech owl was trapped. But, as we were extracting it from the net, a Northern Saw-whet Owl flew into a nearby tree prompting us to switch the vocalization tapes. Five saw-whets were trapped by midnight, with three more trapped the following night, making these the earliest ever captured saw-whets in the fall at PEPtBO. The September total for saw-whets is normally around 35, but during the same month in 2007 we netted 314. In fact, all the previous Septembers added together only add up to 214!

Later in the fall, on the night of 12-13 October, we banded an amazing 236 saw-whets, most between 1:00

and 3:30 am. *This is the highest number of saw-whets ever captured in a night by anyone, anywhere.*

Including that night, we had four nights with over 100 owls banded: 158 on 30 Sept, 102 on 4 Oct, 135 on 11 Oct, and 236 on 13 Oct.

Saw-whets weren't the only owls to visit the net lanes. Also banded were six

Eastern Screech Owls, including a red-phase, four Long-eared Owls, and 18 Barred Owls. Similar to saw-whets, this was twice the previous best year total for Barred Owls, which was nine birds.

Why such a surge in saw-whet numbers around PEPtBO, you ask? This is likely due to the fact that last year was a



A Northern Saw-whet Owl ready for banding at Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory. Photo: J Kent

...continued on pg. 2

Owls fill our nets.....continued from pg. 1



A Barred Owl captured during Fall 2007 is ready for release. Photo: K Holder

good breeding season for saw-whets due to high vole populations up north. Seventy percent of the saw-whets netted this fall were hatch-year birds, while 23% were second-year, and 7% after-second-year in age. This demographic breakdown is about normal for a good vole-owl year.

A crash in those same vole populations likely made the saw-whets move south for the winter. Next year should be a poor breeding year as the vole population will be very low. Netting-wise, in fall 2008 we expect to catch large numbers of saw-whets again, but demographically most of the birds ($\geq 50\%$) should be second-year birds.

Other stations devoted to banding owls had good owl years, too. For example, Bruce Murphy at Timiskaming captured approximately

1000 saw-whets. Most other stations reported good or record years, but not on the scale of PEPtBO or Timiskaming.

With all this movement we had several same season recoveries. Our birds were trapped in Maryland (1), New Jersey (1), New York (3), Ontario (3), Pennsylvania (6), Virginia (4), and West Virginia (1). We also trapped a few birds that were banded elsewhere in Ontario during the fall, including three from Timiskaming, three from Peterborough, two from Lakefield, and one from Toronto. We also captured one bird that was banded in spring 2007 at Whitefish Point, Michigan.

Let's hope for many more such owl years in the future. Thanks go to all those volunteers who helped work the challenging night shift.



Experience artists' talents at *Art of Flight*

by Rosemary Kent

This spring, PEPtBO is embarking on a new fundraising adventure in partnership with the Black Prince Winery – an art show appropriately named *Art of Flight*. The theme celebrates the miracle of migration of thousands of birds through Prince Edward County en route to and from their nesting sites in the Boreal forest each year. It is intended to encourage creative flights of fancy among those artists invited to participate.

The show will feature 45 artists from the County and beyond, including three of our own volunteers: Don Chisholm, Brian Joyce, and Judy Kent. It offers participating artists an opportunity to showcase their skills, and offer for sale their work in the Art Cellar, a unique gallery setting at Black Prince Winery in Picton. The show will offer the public a chance to enjoy, and purchase, pieces of fine art,

and taste the County's fine wines. Proceeds from the show will go to PEPtBO, specifically to support the monitoring of the fall migration of Northern Saw-whet Owls.

All PEPtBO members are cordially invited to attend the Opening Reception of the *Art of Flight* show and sale on **Thursday 8 May** from 7:00 - 9:00 pm at the *Black Prince Winery*. If not that evening, then with three successive weekends to choose from we hope many of our members and volunteers will be able to attend this unique event.

Location: Black Prince Winery, 13370 Loyalist Parkway, Picton

Show Dates: Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, from 11:00am to 5:00pm each day, on the weekends of May 9-11, May 16-18, and May 23-25.

PEPtBO's banding success higher than ever

by Wallace Rendell

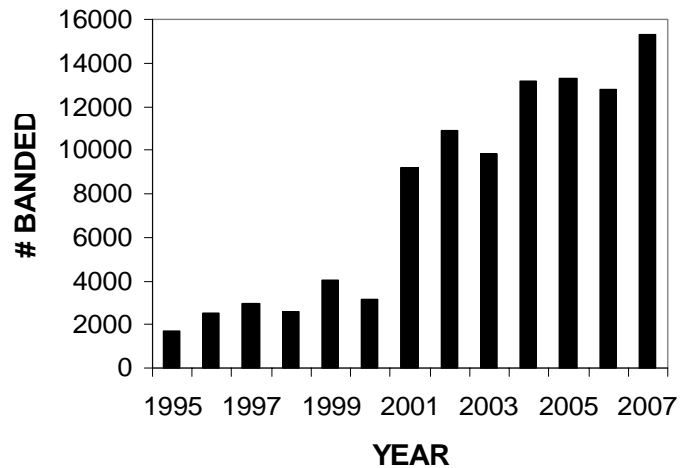
From banding about 1,800 birds in 1995, we have increased the number of processed birds to a new record in 2007 of approximately 15,400, all species combined!

When first incorporated, our greatest banding effort within a year was devoted to the spring season; autumn banding resulted in at most 487 birds (1999).

With the coming of David Okines, we began to greet fall migration with the same effort as spring. Between Fall 2000 and Fall 2001, we went from 173 birds captured to 6,573 birds captured. Since Fall 2001, we've caught at least 5511 birds each fall.



David Okines helps long-term volunteer, Elizabeth Kerr, extract a juvenile sharp-shinned hawk from a net. Photo: J Kent



Total number of birds of all species banded at the Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory since the observatory opened in 1995.

With respect to the spring season, between Spring 2002 and Spring 2003, we jumped from 2594 birds captured to 5106. Since then, we've captured at least 4213 birds each spring.

Our success is due, in part, to added net lanes, and added ground traps over the years, but this extra effort and success is largely based on David's drive to learn as much as we can from birds migrating through the County in the spring and fall. Having him on salary helps reward him for this great effort on-site for twenty weeks of the year.

Some Important Dates for Spring 2008

15 April—31 May: Spring Banding Season

8-11, 16-18, 23-25 May: Art of Flight Art Show

31 May: Annual General Meeting and Birdathon Wrap-up

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of the Prince Edward Point Observatory, we would like to extend our best wishes to Brenda Carter and Gerard Phillips

PEPtBO in the News

The Observatory has received some international press attention recently. In an article entitled *Prince Edward County: O Canada!* author Olivia Stren describes our efforts to band birds in this important flyway to readers of *National Geographic Traveller* (Oct 2007).

Online, at *Wetlands*, a publication of the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve near Singapore, author Ray Knock wrote a great description of his experiences banding birds at PEPtBO during Fall 2005. Ray is a businessman, and volunteer bird bander at the reserve.

Fall 2007 Banding Summary

by David Okines

As the article on the front page of this newsletter describes, Fall 2007 was a significant banding season for PEPtBO, and not only for the owls that we handled. Below is a description of other events and milestones during 13 August to 31 October.

August

Observations for the fall started 13 August when we arrived to set up the nets. The best bird of the first week was an Olive-sided Flycatcher caught in a net in the woods, only the second one ever banded in the fall here. Good numbers of Purple Finches were seen and trapped, consisting mostly of second-year females. A final total of 444 were banded for this species which far surpasses the previous best fall banding total of 37 birds. A Broad-winged Hawk was trapped on the 27th, and another on the 29th. Two Short-billed Dowitchers were seen on the beach on the 26th. Night-hawks were moving on the 27th, culminating in a slow fly past of 62 birds as they headed south towards the lake. The following night only eight were counted. Three Olive-sided Flycatchers were sitting on the bush tops on the 26th. Two hundred Barn Swallows were seen on the 25th and 120 were seen the next day. Twenty-three Common Night-hawks were seen on the 31st but numbers dwindled after that with only 1-8 seen in a night. They were seen on eight nights this year up from the normal 3-4 nights.

September

A Yellow-throated Vireo was present on 2 September. On the 12th, northwest winds produced 150 Sharp-shinned Hawks, three Coopers Hawks, two Northern Goshawks, 15 Broad-winged Hawks and 25 Red-tailed Hawks. The fifth Broad-winged Hawk of the fall was banded on the 23rd.

A Whip-poor-will was banded on the 26th, and another flushed on the 24th. Blue Jays started to pick up and peak counts during the last week of September were 3000 on the 25th and 2000 the next day. A Common Raven was floating over the area on the 23rd for a couple of hours, calling almost non-stop. A very early Fox Sparrow was

trapped on the 24th. A flock of 85 Rusty Blackbirds stopped in briefly on the 23rd.

American Goldfinches were rapidly increasing in numbers captured by the middle of the month, and 1369 were banded by the end of the season. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers peaked at 20 on the 28th.

October

A flock of Canada Geese on 7 October contained a single Snow Goose, while the first Golden Eagle of the fall was seen on the 9th as were a flock of three Cackling Geese among a group of Canada Geese. Four Peregrine Falcons flew over on the 8th. A Pileated Woodpecker was trapped on the 8th and is the first ever caught in the fall. Myrtle Warblers finally started to pick up, and 750 were seen on the 9th including a group of 500 near the lighthouse. Two hundred more were seen on the 12th. A *Myiarchus* flycatcher was seen on the 8th and was thought to be an Ash-throated Flycatcher.



Photo: J. Kent

One hundred Golden-crowned Kinglets and 75 Ruby-crowned Kinglets were seen on the 12th October. The 14th saw a flock of 38 American Crows slowly make their way across the field. The 12th saw 100 Ruby-crowned Kinglets and 75 Golden-crowned Kinglets. On the 17th a small group of 15 Cedar Waxwings feeding at the end of the woods had a Bohemian Waxwing with them. This is the first one seen here in the fall. That same day there were 230 American Robins in the area. A Pine Warbler was trapped on the 12th, and later in the afternoon four more unbanded birds were seen feeding on the front lawn.

An Evening Grosbeak was seen on the 19th followed by eight on the 20th. By the 20th the White-winged Scoter flock offshore had dramatically increased to around 2000 individuals, with small numbers of Black and Surf Scoters mixed in with them. The first Northern Shrikes of the fall were two birds that flew over on the 21st. On the 24th there were at least 40 Horned Grebe's present offshore.

Last but not least, an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull flew past on the 19th.

Top 10 Species Banded Fall 2007	2007	2006	Top 10 Warbler Species Banded	2007	2006
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1518	432	Black-throated Blue Warbler	170	226
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	482	1241	Magnolia Warbler	168	297
Golden-crowned Kinglet	425	819	Myrtle Warbler	145	384
Black-capped Chickadee	264	14	Blackpoll Warbler	71	157
Blue Jay	251	108	Nashville Warbler	69	97
Brown Creeper	193	278	American Redstart	63	101
Hermit Thrush	153	183	Common Yellowthroat	61	65
Grey-cheeked Thrush	147	89	Black-throated Green Warbler	27	77
Blue-headed Vireo	128	124	Chestnut-sided Warbler	24	37
Swainson's Thrush	105	102	Black-and-White Warbler	22	44

Daily banding totals for each day of the week (14th Aug –31st Oct 2007)													Total
Sunday		75	100	63	-	112	130	373	92	163	145	184	1437
Monday		35	62	67	63	118	191	118	71	139	62	238	1164
Tuesday	47	56	32	45	118	94	85	79	169	120	12	111	968
Wednesday	58	51	35	27	61	144	48	49	265	54	205	79	1076
Thursday	44	38	88	30	52	74	213	238	262	100	115		1254
Friday	70	43	83	26	25	107	215	126	168	33	58		954
Saturday	41	65	60	55	80	49	221	134	289	44	-		1038
Weekly Total	260	363	460	313	399	698	1103	1117	1316	653	597	612	7891

Sighting Highlights for Fall 2007

Red-throated Loon: 3 in Oct
Horned Grebe: peak of 40 on 24 Oct
Turkey Vulture: peak of 120 on 14 Oct
Cackling Goose: 3 flew over 9 Oct
Snow Goose: 1 flying over 7 Oct
Osprey: 6 singles all fall
Bald Eagle: 16 birds, max 3 on 8 Sept
Northern Goshawk: 19 birds all fall
Broad-winged Hawk: 5 banded
Golden Eagle: 2 singles in Oct
Peregrine Falcon: max of 4 on 8 Oct
Baird's Sandpiper: 1 on 24 Sept
Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1 on 19 Oct
Common Tern: 1 on 15 Sept
Rock Pigeon: 3 all fall
Barred Owl: 18 banded in Oct
Northern Saw-whet Owl: first bird trapped on 17 Sept, max 250 on 13 Oct; total of 1518 birds banded
Common Nighthawk: 62 on the 27 Aug, with 45 more over another 7 nights
Whip-poor-will: 3 singles, late Sept

Red-bellied Woodpecker: singles on 16 & 18 Oct
Pileated Woodpecker: 1 banded 8 Oct
Olive-sided Flycatcher: 4 in Aug
Ash-throated Flycatcher: 1 near Obs 8 Oct
Northern Shrike: first were 2 on 21 Oct, early
Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 on 2 Sept
Common Raven: 8 all fall, max 4 on 7 Oct
Barn Swallow: 200 on 25 Aug
Black-capped Chickadee: peak of 120 on 18 Oct
Eastern Bluebird: peak of 11 on 21 Oct
Bohemian Waxwing: 1 among Cedar Waxwings on 17 Oct
Cape May Warbler: 2 singles in Aug
Myrtle Warbler: peak of 750 on 9 Oct
Pine Warbler: 6 during 5-12 Oct
Fox Sparrow: one on 24 Sept, almost 3 weeks earlier than normal
Indigo Bunting: 2 all fall
Rusty Blackbird: peak of 85 on 23 Aug
Purple Finch: peak of 225 on 19 Aug



Wally Rendell scanning Lake Ontario from Point Traverse during his 2006 birdathon. Photo: K Holder

Do you birdathon? Here's your chance

by Cheryl Anderson

The Spring Bird Count is a major fund raiser for PEPtBO. It is held annually in conjunction with the Baillie Birdathon run by Bird Studies Canada (BSC). BSC collects the money and remits 90% of it back to PEPtBO. All members are urged to participate.

There are two opportunities to take part. First, you can be a birdathoner. To do this you register with Cheryl Anderson* and spend a day in May counting as many species of wild birds as you can. You ask your friends to support your counting with a pledge for each species counted or a flat donation. The second way to participate is to answer in the affirmative when someone asks you to support their birdathon. Of course, you may participate in both activities!

Last year we raised over \$12,000 for PEPtBO with the Birdathon. Keeping in mind that PEPtBO receives no government funding and yet, as a member of the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network, collects vital data on avian migration routes, survivorship and longevity, the importance of the Birdathon cannot be over emphasized.

Please consider participating in this important activity.
*cherylanderson23@sympatico.ca

REMINDER: Members, time to renew your memberships, please

2008 Annual General Meeting & Birdathon Wrap-Up



Lake-on-the-Mountain Pavilion.
Photo: W Rendell

On Saturday 31 May 2008 members are invited once again to picturesque *Lake-on-the-Mountain Pavilion* for our Annual General Meeting and Baillie Birdathon Wrap-Up. Meet your Board of Directors, and spend time swapping stories of birding, bird banding, and bird conservation during dinner.

The doors will open at 5:00 pm (Birdathoners! Please bring your checklists and final tally sheets). The always popular *Currahs* will cater dinner soon after the Welcome at 6:00. The Business Meeting, hosted by PEPtBO President Brian Joyce, will be at 7:00. The Baillie Birdathon Results and Awards will be at 7:15, followed by our Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition. After this, we will finish with our guest speaker, Dr. Karen Holder, at 8:00. Karen's talk, entitled "*Impact of an Ice Age: Travels in the Arctic and Tropics to Solve Subspecies Puzzles*", will

take you on a scientific expedition from the Aleutian Islands and Canadian Arctic Archipelago to the rainforests of tropical west Africa. See you there! Tickets are \$20. Contact Brian Joyce at peptbo@rogers.com to reserve your tickets.

Michael Runtz returns as our celebrity birder in May

by Cheryl Anderson

Michael Runtz is one of Canada's most highly respected naturalists, nature photographers, and natural history authors. A birdwatcher since the age of five, he has lived, breathed and worked with nature all his life. Professionally, Michael has worked as a naturalist in Canada's national and provincial parks, and has performed numerous biological surveys, including one on the rare Peregrine Falcon.

A dynamic communicator, Michael is equally at home in the television or radio studio, lecture hall or classroom. Over 2000 people sign up every year for Michael's Natural History course. Televised from Carleton University, this is the most popular course of its type in Canada.

He is also in great demand as a speaker for groups as diverse as outdoor educators, professional biologists, schoolchildren, and naturalists' clubs. As well, Michael is a popular guest on numerous television and radio shows, and regularly co-hosts phone-ins on CBC Radio Noon.

Michael was the featured speaker at the PEPtBO dinner last fall and graciously offered to be our guest birder this spring. He will be sharing the proceeds of his Baillie Birdathon with the Innis Point Bird Observatory.

If you would like to support PEPtBO by sponsoring Michael's Birdathon, please complete and return the coupon below.



Michael Runtz. Photo: Carleton University



Yes, I would like to sponsor Michael in the PEC Spring Bird Count.

I will sponsor **Michael** for: \$0.10 \$0.25 \$0.50 \$1.00 _____ (other)

for each species he identifies (Michael is likely to find 120 to 140 species).

OR: My donation of: \$10 \$25 \$50 \$75 \$125 _____ (other)

for **Michael's** Birdathon is enclosed (Make cheque payable to "Bird Studies Canada")

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ POSTAL CODE _____

All Birdathon donations are tax creditable in Canada. Bird Studies Canada will issue income tax receipts for donations of \$10 or more, and for lesser amounts on request. Please provide me with a tax receipt.

Mail to: Cheryl Anderson 28 Low St., Picton ON K0K 2T0

Board member profiles: Karen Holder

by Wallace Rendell

Periodically, we will profile members of the Board of Directors of the Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory to give you a better understanding of the skills each member brings to our quarterly meetings and beyond. In this issue of our newsletter, Karen Holder, who will also be the speaker at PEPtBO's Annual General Meeting in May.

Karen is a relatively recent addition to the Board of Directors at PEPtBO. She brings to the table extraordinary organizational skills, and broad experience in all facets of pure scientific research on birds. Born in Kingston, Ontario, Karen's summers at the family cottage on Gananoque Lake contributed to her lifelong interests in nature and science.

As an undergrad and graduate in Biology at Queen's University, she participated in a diverse, and seemingly endless, list of studies concerned with bird conservation, ecology, and evolution. To name a few: at Ice Water, near Sault Ste. Marie, she worked for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources monitoring northern warblers for several summers. She spent a summer in blinds on Götland Island, Sweden, helping describe the lek mating system of shorebirds called ruffs. Three field seasons were spent in Queensland, Australia, studying the cooperative breeding system of noisy minors. Genetic markers were used to show that families consisted of many related males (i.e., dads, sons, uncles) cooperating to raise the young of one female.

Her own primary research was based in the Canadian Arctic and Aleutian Islands during this period. Four summers saw her head to the Melville Peninsula to determine the significance of breeding-related behaviours and characters in rock ptarmigan, particularly dust bathing and male eye comb quality, and how these issues were related to timing of breeding and overall male reproductive success.

Three more summers allowed her to tour the Arctic Archipelago and Alaska's Attu Island, collecting tissue samples of rock ptarmigans to try and explain differences in male breeding plumage col-



Black breeding plumage of male rock ptarmigan on Attu Isl., Aleutian Archipelago. Photo: K Holder



Erin and Karen at the family cottage, Gananoque Lake.

Photo: W Rendell

our among subspecies across the Nearctic. The DNA collected allowed her to show that there is little interbreeding between subspecies currently, and that the origins of the subspecies appear to date back to ice-free refugia during the most recent ice age. Her findings led to revised management approaches for the particularly isolated subspecies of rock ptarmigan in Newfoundland.

After receiving her PhD in Biology from Queen's, Karen spent three years as a postdoctoral fellow at the Centre for Tropical Research at San Francisco State University. During two field seasons in Cameroon and Ivory Coast, she collected tissue samples from species of greenbuls and sunbirds hoping to test similar theories to those of her PhD. In these species, as in rock ptarmigan, she found evidence of restricted gene flow and divergence between populations resulting from contraction of rainforest into forest refuges during the recent ice age. Of interest from a conservation point of view, her work and that of her colleagues showed that natural selection appears to be stronger in transition zones (i.e., ecotones) between savannah and rainforest, fostering adaptation due to its environmental variability. This has led to recommendations that ecotones are as worthy of conservation and preservation as pure habitats such as rainforest.

Now a mother to Erin, and partner to Wallace Rendell, Karen is a Professor of Biosciences at Loyalist College, and the Coordinator of Bioscience programs there. In her "spare" time, she also serves on the Medical Research Ethics Committee for the Quinte Health Care Board.



Here's Your Chance to Adopt-an-Owl

Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory bands more Northern Saw-whet Owls annually than any other banding station in Canada. You can help support our efforts by adopting one of these unique creatures. Adopters will receive a photo and information on their special owl, and any updates if the owl is recaptured.

At our *6th Annual Fall Dinner and Silent Auction* this past October, many people attending the dinner adopted saw-whets for their kids and grand-kids. Contact Judy Kent via peptbo@rogers.com to make your connection with a wild owl today.

Affiliates & Supporters

We want to thank all those organizations that have contributed to the establishment and support of the Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory, including Bird Studies Canada, BirdLife International, Canadian Migration Monitoring Network, Canadian Nature Federation, Canadian Wildlife Service, Community Fisheries and Wildlife Involvement Program, Ontario Nature, Friends of the Environment Foundation, Important Bird Areas Canada, Ontario Trillium Foundation, and Nature Canada.



Help the Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory by Becoming a Member

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ Prov/State: _____

Country: _____ Postal Code: _____ Tel:(____) _____ email: _____

Membership Category (per year): Regular (\$20) Supporting (incl. Annual Station Report (\$30))

Sponsor (\$100+) Patron (\$500+)

Are you interested in:	Receiving "The Point" electronically	YES	NO
	Participating in the Spring Bird Count / Baillie Birdathon	YES	NO
	Volunteering at PEPTBO with bird banding	YES	NO
	Volunteer for other activities that support PEPTBO	YES	NO

Please make your cheque payable to "Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory" and mail to:
Joanne Dewey, Membership Secretary, PEPTBO, R.R. 8, 642 Elmbrook Road, Picton, ON K0K 2T0
 PEPTBO is a charitable organization. Income tax receipts will be issued. Charitable Reg. # 869685420RR001

PEPtBO Fall Dinner 2008 brings guest speakers John & Janet Foster

by Terry Sprague

October 25th is the date of our PEPtBO fall dinner, and we are pleased this year to have as our guest speakers the noted authors and film-makers, John and Janet Foster. Their topic *Polar Voyages - from the Arctic to Antarctica* will focus on their love for these regions at the top and bottom of the world, and of the wildlife to be found there.

In their presentations, they will take us to the islands of South Georgia, the Falklands, and the Antarctic Peninsula in the southern polar regions, Greenland in the Canadian Arctic, and a few places in between.

The Fosters are naturalists who have travelled and filmed in nearly all of Canada's wilderness regions. Over the past four decades, they have directed and co-hosted many nature and wildlife programs for television, including the CBC series *To the Wild Country* and *Wild Canada*. They have filmed wildlife programs across Canada and in the United States for *Global Family*, a wildlife series produced by TVOntario and the Japan Broadcasting Corporation. Since 1995, they have also produced and filmed 10 one-hour television specials for Discovery Channel and the CBC, which are currently running as a series entitled *Discovering Wild Canada* airing on CBC Newsworld.

They have co-authored two books based on their filming adventures: *To the Wild Country* (Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1975) and *Adventures In Wild Canada* (McClelland and Stewart, 1984). Janet has also written about her encounters with wildlife for young readers in *A Cabin Full of Mice* (de Pencier, 1980), *The Wilds of Whip-poor-will Farm* (de Pencier, 1982) and *Journey to the Top of the World* (de Pencier, 1987).

John was born in England. His family emigrated to Canada in 1947, and moved to a farm in southern Ontario. He is a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College, and began his broadcasting career with CFTO-TV in 1960. He

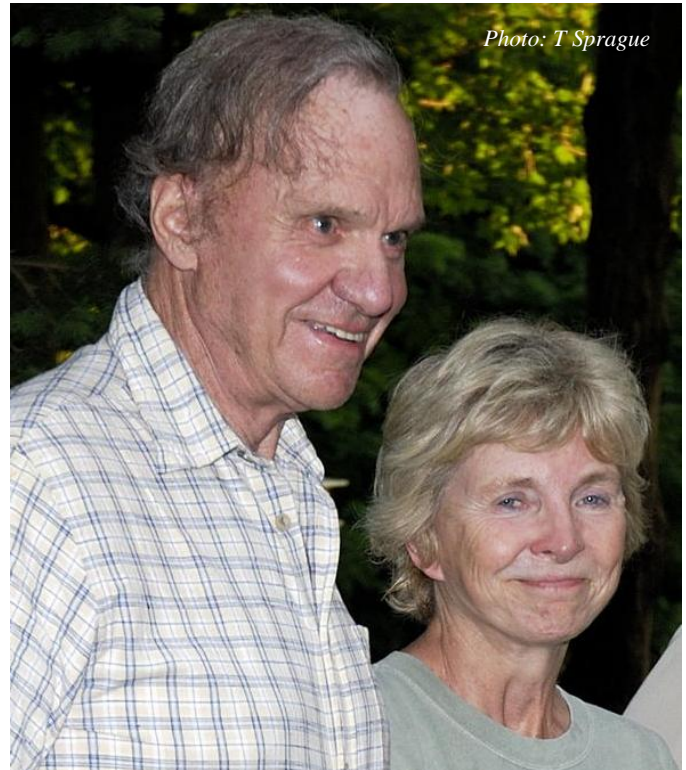


Photo: T Sprague

spent 24 years with the CBC before leaving in 1986 to form with Janet a film production company.

Janet was born in Ottawa. She trained in ballet, and danced professionally for several years with Canada's National Ballet Company before beginning her broadcasting career. She is a graduate of York University and the University of Toronto, and holds three degrees in Canadian history. Her doctoral dissertation on the beginnings of the conservation movement in Canada, *Working for Wildlife*, was published by the University of Toronto Press in 1978.

Mark October 25th on your calendar, and tell your friends about this interesting evening. We'll see you there!

© *The Point* is a publication of the Prince Edward Point Observatory (PEPtBO), written by, and distributed to, the membership of PEPtBO twice annually. We encourage members and non-members alike to submit, for consideration, articles and photos concerning PEPtBO, bird banding, and bird conservation. Title photo (front page) of Point Traverse © K Holder

