

The Warbler



Photo Credit: Ken Orich, LSLBO member

Executive Director Report

By Patti Campsall

Outside my window, the sun is shining, and my favourite bird is singing the “cheeseburger song”. As I tell the kids in our education programs, this means that the Black-capped chickadee is looking for a girlfriend, and spring can’t be far away. Another sign of spring is the hectic pace at the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation (BCBC) as we get ready for another summer season. That means the arrival of new summer staff and volunteers, excited school children at our spring education programs, and the long anticipate arrival of migratory birds to our research station. It also means a new “spring” in Richard Krikun’s (LSLBO Bander in Charge) step as he dreams of peaceful mornings at the banding lab instead of spending long winter days writing reports at the BCBC. This year promises to be the busiest ever in research world at the Boreal Centre as our programs continue

to expand every year. I know that the education program tends to get a lot of the “buzz” at the centre, so in this issue, I thought that I would put our research program in the spotlight.

This summer will be our 17th year of monitoring the migratory and breeding birds of the Boreal Forest. Fan favourite, Richard Krikun, begins his seventh banding season with the LSLBO and we are happy to report that Nicole Linfoot will be returning as our Assistant Bander after successfully earning her bird banding sub-permit last season. We are very lucky to have such dedicated and knowledgeable staff as part of our research team...they love what they do, and are very willing to share their expertise with visitors and staff. As usual, the primary goal of the LSLBO each season is to ensure that we successfully complete our core programs: Spring and Fall Migration Monitoring, MAPS—Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (looking at our local breeding birds), and the Northern Saw-whet Owl Fall Migration Monitoring Program. In their spare time, field staff work on several special research projects. With the potential support of a long term volunteer at the lab this summer, we are hoping to have the ability to get many of our special projects

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Winter 2010

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completed this season.

As we reported earlier, the LSLBO has entered into a **Joint Research Partnership** with Alberta Parks and the University of Alberta to promote academic research at the BCBC and also address some of our research questions at the same time. This summer, we will be working with Dr. Erin Bayne on several projects including:

- 1) Feather isotope analysis project to differentiate migratory versus local breeding birds during our fall migration (essentially, finding out when fall migration really starts at the LSLBO).
- 2) To assess the impact of 16 years of habitat succession at our net lanes on capture rates and species diversity. This will be part of a larger long term study that will examine trends in phenology and populations of boreal breeding songbirds due to climate change.

In addition, there will be several other U of A research projects based at the BCBC over the next few years. It is a very exciting time for our society!

As for other field station news: we are thrilled that **Cory Olson, University of Calgary grad student** will be returning to continue his work on "Roosting Behaviour of Little Brown Bats". In addition to working on a very interesting research topic, he was the hit of last summer's interpretative program. His *Mysteries of the Night* program included the chance to see a live bat up close and a night hike with bats swooping over your heads. The kids are still talking about it!

Our **15th Technical Report** is almost complete and the results will be made available to our members and supporters soon. As a teaser, we have included

some of the highlights of the report on page 5. This was a huge undertaking and we would like to commend Richard for all his hard work on this important milestone for our society.

In other research news, the LSLBO has been providing our avian expertise to local forest industry this year. Last summer, we completed a **Breeding Bird Survey Project**, and next week, we will be starting an **Owl Monitoring Project**. Through these projects, the LSLBO provides forest companies with information on the population status of breeding birds in their management area, where these bird species are located, as well as the types of habitat that are critical for their breeding success.

If you would like to be kept up to date on all our research news or be the first to hear about exciting bird banding highlights, I would encourage you to become a fan of the Boreal Centre on **Facebook**. Many exciting things are happening for the LSLBO right now...and it is because of the passion, commitment and hard work of our board members, volunteers, members, partners, supporters and staff. Thank you for your continued interest and commitment to our programs. We look forward to sharing the excitement of the summer with you!



Great Horned Owl on nest.

Photo Credit: Ken Orich, LSLBO member

Canadian Migration Monitoring Network National Meeting

by Richard Krikun, Bander in Charge

The Canadian Migration Monitoring Network (CMMN) is a network made up of over 25 migration monitoring stations across Canada. It acts as central body that analyses population trend data from the stations, coordinates large scale research projects, and shares bird population information with other organizations. The Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory has been a full member station since 1999. Every two years, the CMMN holds a national meeting. This is an opportunity for member stations, Bird Studies Canada, and the Canadian Wildlife Service to meet face-to-face and discuss the latest developments, learn about research initiatives, and work towards improving the CMMN as a whole. It's not all just meetings, organizers take opportunities to provide bird watching outings and promote social networking in the form of happy hour.

These meetings are held at banding stations, which gives the chance to learn how other monitoring stations operate. Although as a network, stations have similar goals of monitoring bird populations, not all stations are able to operate in exactly the same manner. Visiting other stations often leads to some really great ideas that can be used at your own station. Organizers also switch locations of the meetings and try to alternate between eastern and western stations. In 2007, the meetings were hosted at the Boreal Centre by the LSLBO.

The 2009 National Meeting was hosted by the Observatoire d'oiseaux de Tadoussac, Quebec, from October 22 to 26. Tadoussac is a small town along the St. Lawrence about three hours drive north from Quebec City. Patti, the LSLBO's Executive Director, and I took

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Group checking out the visual migration monitoring lookout at Observatoire d'oiseaux de Tadoussac, Quebec

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the red-eye flight out of Edmonton and arrived in Quebec City early the next morning. We landed in the middle of a snowstorm. The three hour drive took five due to the combination of bad roads, hilly terrain, and terrible instructions from "Bertha" our confused GPS navigation system. But thanks to the expert winter driving skills of Patti, we arrived to the meetings just in time for supper and happy hour.

The next two days were filled with meetings and presentations on a wide range of topics. All stations had an opportunity to present updates and special presentations were given on migration studies using weather radar, stable isotopes, and radio telemetry. There was a lot of information to digest. Often happy hour turned out to be just as productive as the meetings. My favorite example of this occurred after a researcher from the Beaverhill Bird Observatory in Alberta

finished a presentation on a study he conducted on Northern Saw-whet Owls. He had some perplexing results that he was not able to fully explain. During happy hour he was approached by a professor who did a similar study and had similar results, except he was working on Black-backed Woodpeckers in Quebec. Those two talked for a long time.

We had an opportunity to take a trip to the monitoring station. Tadoussac is located on a sand dune right along the St. Lawrence, which provided an outstanding view. This station operates a little differently than many others because their primary monitoring method is visual counts, and banding is supplementary. They have two observers who stand out for hours every morning and just count migrating birds. It was a quite day and we only saw a few small flocks of birds. Unfortunately their mist nets were still frozen shut from the previous day's storm, so we

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Snow covered mist net on top of sand dune over- looking the St. Lawrence River

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could not see their banding operation. Tadoussac also conducts owl banding and use a very interesting set up. They target Northern Saw-whet Owls, like we do here at the LSLBO, but they also target Boreal Owls. They use separate audio lures for both species, but the calls are played at the same time. It's a really neat and effective set up and something to consider doing at the LSLBO. Unfortunately once again the weather was not cooperating, it was extremely windy, and nobody was overly surprised when no owls were banded.

The weather was gorgeous on the final day of the meetings. We wrapped up just before lunch, then went on an afternoon whale watching trip. I felt bad for other people on that trip because all the birders from the meeting (and there were a lot of us) kept getting excited and pointing out seabirds. It took some time before the other passengers started to ignore us because seabirds are not whales. Eventually we did see one Minke whale and near the end of the trip a pod of Belugas showed up. The tour guide said it best, "there are Belugas everywhere!" I then learned that whales are just as



Beluga Whales on Whale watching trip

exciting as seabirds. It was a neat experience, and we returned just in time for the final happy hour.

These meetings are a great to meet a group of people with the same passions, to share ideas, stories, and information. The next meeting will be held at the Vaseux Lake Migration Monitoring Station Observatory, near Naramata B.C, in 2011. Talking birds in the Okanogan will be fantastic; I am looking forward to it.

Classes and Workshops

by Charity Martin, Executive Assistant

We like to keep things as busy as possible around the Boreal Centre, especially in the fall and winter when tourist season is over. This fall we hosted two art classes instructed by Sandra Artimowich. Sandra has been doing art classes at the centre for quite a while now, whenever she comes out west from Manitoba to visit her son Brent, a local conservation officer. Her latest classes focused on the "one-stroke method;" one project was an acrylic floral painting on Tyvek paper and the other was an underwater scene on a fish bowl.

This winter we hosted a new artist at the centre. Carolyn Feir lives east of Sherwood Park. She is a self-taught artist who loves painting with oil and watercolours. Carolyn's first class focused on floral paintings using a technique called **Bleach-into-ink**. It was such a hit with the students that they asked her to return for another class right away. The follow up was an oil portraiture class, which was also a great suc-

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cess with her students. Carolyn is planning on returning to the centre for more classes in the future.

At the end of November we hosted a deliciously new kind of workshop. Our **chocolate-making workshop**, brain-child of our wonderful volunteer, Sue Walsh and our very own Cori Klassen, was an overwhelming success. The original one day workshop filled up within hours of being advertised, so we added a second workshop, which also soon reached maximum capacity. This tantalizing workshop was even showcased in the Spotlight section of the local paper, the Lakeside Leader. It is a no-brainer that we will be hosting this workshop again!



Sue Walsh making chocolate bark.
Photo by Theresa Seraphim of the Lakeside Leader

In March we hosted for the second time a Quilting Retreat for the "**Crazy Quilters**". This lovely group of seven ladies from Peace River stayed at the Nest for a weekend and quilted to their heart's content in the multi-purpose room.

Working on their own special project, they provided our weekend visitors with a beautiful show of working art! While they were here, they took advantage of our last remaining snow to do some skiing and snowshoeing. They love the Boreal Centre so much that they have already booked a weekend next year!



The Crazy Quilters show off their beautiful projects on the deck at the Boreal Centre.

A returning favourite workshop, **Bark Carving** with Pat Potvin and Ronda Groom, will be happening at the Boreal Centre on April 10th! As a result of requests from the public, it will be a course for children this time around. Children between the ages of 10-14 can come out for the day and take home a finished "Wood Spirit" made of poplar bark. Phone 780-849-8240 for more information.

We are always searching for new and exciting classes and workshops to host at the centre. Please let us know if you have any great ideas!

Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory: A Short History...continued

Part 3: "Spreading the Word"

By Nancy Langford, former LSLBO editor

To keep LSLBO members and supporters informed, the newsletter "**The Warbler**" was started in 1997 as an email newsletter to all volunteers, partners and members of the society. Over the years, it transitioned into a more traditional newsletter format and soon become the chief mechanism to share news, educational items and research with LSLBO members, friends, donors and affiliates. With the opening of the new Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation in 2006, regular email announcements of programs and events are also sent between newsletter publication dates to keep members and public informed. Most recently in 2010, the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation joined the social networking world with the fanpage on Facebook to provide updates for our members and friends as well as provide a venue for interactions between our members from across the country.

The LSLBO website went online May 16, 2000 to inform and educate members, volunteers and the general public. A BCBC website was also created when the facility opened and the sites are linked for users to access both easily.

The Society recognizes the critical role **The Lakeside Leader** has played in their success. Regular informed coverage of LSLBO events, and publishing weekly reports by educators and the Bander in Charge during the banding and monitor-

ing season have kept Slave Lake area residents informed about the observatory's work, the organization's activities, and most important, about the rich avian life and their habitat in their own community.

In 2002, the LSLBO was awarded the **Partnership Appreciation Award** by Parks and Protected Areas, Alberta Community Development for its long and successful partnership with the staff of Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park. The two organizations have worked together since 1994 to ensure that successful continuation of migration and breeding bird monitoring operations within the Park. On September 16, 2006 the LSLBO was awarded the highest level of recognition by Alberta Parks and Protected Areas, the **Green Shield Award**. The award was recognition for the Society's extraordinary contributions in establishing the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation. This award is presented annually to an individual or organization whose volunteer efforts have made a significant contribution to the preservation or conservation of land, water ecosystems and/or the plants and animals that live there. The government news release about the award stated "the success of this endeavor can be attributed to the tireless work and determination of the LSLBO board and volunteers who have committed thousands of hours annually at great personal expense to make this dream a reality."

On June 2, 2006, Bob Deacon, LSLBO

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Chair, and Ronda Groom, Director of Fundraising, were awarded the first two BCBC **Stewardship Excellence Awards** by June Markwart, Director of Visitor Services, Alberta Community Development. The award is to be “presented to an individual or organization whose dedication and passion embodies our vision ‘Nurturing Stewards of the Boreal Forest.’ Their exemplary efforts inspired others to better ways of living and working that sustain the boreal forest ecosystem and the larger world in which we live”. Everyone in attendance at the Volunteer Appreciation Night enthusiastically endorsed Bob and Ronda as deserving recipients of this inaugural

award. During the festivities, other volunteers were recognized for their valuable support for the project with gifts of birdhouses similar in design to the new BCBC. It was a wonderful day to



LSLBO Chair Bob Deacon proudly receiving his Stewardship Excellence Award from June Markwart.

16th Annual Songbird Festival

June 5 & 6 2010



Saturday: Workshops, guided birding walks, banding lab tours, children's activities, early bird pancake breakfast, and more.

Sunday: 6th Annual bird Run/Walk on the Trans Canada trail, Guided Hike, Banding Lab Tours

For more information, visit www.lslbo.org or www.borealbirdcentre.ca



LSLBO's 15 Year Technical Report

Top 10.... Cori's picks

By Cori Klassen, Boreal Educator

Richard has been working hard in the winter months over the past two years to put together the Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory's 15 year technical report. He waded through 15 years of data, analyzed it, made new spreadsheets with the data and then turned all of this information into a lot of words (and interesting graphs). He then organized the words and graphs into meaningful paragraphs and sections spanning 117 pages! You'll be happy to hear that I've condensed these 117 pages into a list of what I consider to be the top 10 most interesting facts:



Male Myrtle Warbler

1. Did you know that close to **1 million (929,072 to be exact) birds** have been detected during spring and fall migration monitoring at the LSLBO!
2. Our regulars....**85 species of birds** have been encountered every year that the LSLBO has been operating.
3. The busiest spring at the lab was in 2000 with 2,546 birds banded.
4. The busiest fall at the lab was in 2002 with 3,496 birds banded- 1,270 of

which were Myrtle Warblers!

5. In spring, the busiest banding period begins around the long weekend in May and continues to the end of the month. Now you know the answer to our most commonly asked question!!
6. In the fall, the busiest period occurs in the first few weeks of August.
7. Yellow Warblers love netlane 6! (and are more likely to be caught in this netlane than any other in both the spring and fall banding seasons).
8. 420 birds have been banded and then recaptured at the lab in a different season.
9. The **oldest bird** recorded at the LSLBO is an Alder Flycatcher who was banded on July 27, 1996 as an After Hatch Year and was then recaptured on July 21, 2005. He was at least 10 years old!



Least Flycatcher

10. The most interesting **foreign recovery** was a Least Flycatcher that was banded on May 25, 1998 at Omaha, Nebraska and then recaptured at the LSLBO on June 5, 1998. This means the bird flew approximately **2100 km in**

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11 days!

Of course this is only a small fraction of the information you'll find in the 15 Year Technical Report. If you are interested in learning more about the LSLBO's migration monitoring activities and the information we've collected over 15 years in greater detail, I would highly recommend taking a look at this soon to be released report! Stay tuned!!

"Adopt A Member"

by Charity Martin, Executive Assistant

As a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory, you probably already know the benefits to you of being a member. You get the wonderful opportunity to visit the banding lab and experience our beautiful boreal birds first hand. You get up-to-date information about the exciting activities happening at the Boreal Centre. You get to feel good about helping out a unique research facility in your community or know that you are supporting a great research and conservation organization from afar.

But do you know the benefits to the LSLBO of having members?? As a small, non-profit society, we would not be able to succeed without our members. The support we receive is vital to our existence. Our loyal members are most often the first ones to volunteer to help us out when we host big events like the Songbird Festival and Christmas in the Park. When we need a hand down at the banding lab, we turn to our members. If you are one of our many members that live across the country, your annual

membership directly supports our banding lab operations. Most importantly, it is our members that support what we do. It takes many hands and many brains to make a society like ours succeed.

Currently, the LSLBO has 58 members or member groups. This is a respectable number, but just imagine what we could do with more support! Our call out to our members is to help grow our society this spring. We are asking you to consider **"Adopting a Member"**. Choose a person in your life who shares your passion for birds, nature, and conservation. Purchase them an annual membership (valid until June, 2011) for only \$30.00. Then invite them to an event at the Boreal Centre or just bring them out for a day of fun. In the spring, you could bring them to the banding lab and let them see the important research that we do. Hopefully they will see the value in being a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory and will renew their membership next June on their own!

The BCBC has a Facebook Fan Page!!!



**We currently have
185 fans-join us today!!**

Winter Special Events

by Chris Dodds, Visitor Services Supervisor

Although the birds may be gone, winter is still a busy time for us at the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation! Here are some of the highlights from special events that have taken place at the BCBC and throughout Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park over the last few months.

Santa Claus Parade

Alberta Parks and Boreal Centre staff participated in the Santa Claus parade last November. Building the float was made possible by staff members kindly

volunteering supplies and their time.

Given the current budget constraints we were forced to be pretty creative when constructing the parade float. Major credit for the construction of the float goes out to the senior staff of the Northwest area of Alberta Parks who just happened to be in Slave Lake for a meeting at the time. Little did they know they would be pulled into float building during their visit! All of the hard work paid off as our *Christmas in the Park* themed float won the "best overall" award at the parade!!

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Alberta Parks staff and families in the Santa Claus Parade 2009

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Christmas in the Park 2009

In the middle of December, something very special happened in the Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park. An event took place that brought 140 people out to the Boreal Centre! Christmas in the Park was originally scheduled to take place on Dec 13th, but it had to be rescheduled at the last minute due to cold weather. By the time the new date, Dec 20th, rolled around, the weather was amazingly mild with a high of -2°C, which was much better than the previous weekend's high of -27°C! The day was filled with fun for the whole family and included activities such as crafts, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, a craft sale, winter survival demonstrations and a hot dog roast.

This event would not have been possible without the help of a number of volunteers who were able to reschedule at the last minute. A special thanks to MJ and Terry Kristoff, Kelly Harlton, student volunteers from Roland Michener High School, and of course Santa Claus! One of the reasons why I am so sure that this event was a success is the fact that it was the first time we have ever ran out of hot dogs at a Boreal Centre event! You



Even Santa came out for Christmas in the Park

know things are going well when you start running out of hot dogs!!

Frost Fest 2010

Two events were held in Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park for this year's Frost Fest. The first was a "Winter Wonders Night Hike" which took place at the Boreal Centre on February 13th. The event started off with a hot dog barbecue, followed by a slide show introduction to the night sky and local nocturnal creatures. Then everyone went out on a night hike with Cori Klassen and MJ Kristoff, from the Lesser Slave Forest Education Society, to explore the boreal forest in the dark. While I was not able to participate in the hike because I was setting up scopes for the astronomy portion of the program, I could hear the hikers out on the Songbird Trail and it sounded like they were having a great time. Upon returning to the BCBC, we had a campfire at the Nest with a marshmallow roast and hot chocolate. Due to extensive cloud cover that night, we could not see any stars but Patti Campsall entertained us with some wonderful campfire stories about the constellations in the night sky.

On Sunday February 14th, 13 people came out for a cross country ski trip on the Trans Canada Trail from Northshore Day Use Area to the Boreal Centre. The weather was perfect and the group had a great time skiing and exploring. Three hours and twenty minutes after we began, we arrived at the Boreal Centre exhausted but satisfied after a great day of skiing.



New Artist in Residence

by Charity Martin, Executive Assistant

The Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation is proud to announce that we have a new Artist-in-Residence! Margaret Cardinal has graciously accepted this important role. Some of you may know Margaret through her work at Northern Lakes College, where she taught the Aboriginal Clothing and Design program for 21 years. I'd like to take this opportunity to tell you a little more about Margaret and her passion for her art and culture.



Margaret Cardinal was raised in a traditional Northern Plains Cree culture. She is originally from Saddle Lake First Nations in north-eastern Alberta. Her early years were spent mostly out-of-doors, often nomadically following seasonable food to gather, hunt and fish.

In high school Margaret began demonstrating her unique artistic talents by receiving honours in art and clothing

design. After graduation, she chose the Tailor Technician program at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology to further her education. Since then, Margaret has pursued countless opportunities in the informal arena to expand her knowledge of Aboriginal clothing, art and design. She has studied under her parents, aunts, uncles and various elders in her community. Her learning in this area is continuous and deeply rooted in Northern Plains Cree, a language she also speaks.

While teaching at Northern Lakes College, Margaret developed and taught courses in a wide variety of traditional aboriginal skills such as horse hair wrapping, quill work, fish scale art, caribou hair tufting, bead work, moccasin making and much more.

Frequently asked to do workshops and teach, Margaret has developed a large repertoire of activities. She has made dolls, played traditional Cree games with young people, taught sewing to aboriginal women at Aurora College in the Northwest Territories and done shield making with many women's groups. Margaret also has a business making teepees, capotes, fibre arts, and one-of-a-kind traditional Cree dolls. She has won many prestigious awards for her doll-making and has had them displayed at Jubilee Auditoriums, the Nickel Arts Museum, the office of the Minister of Culture, the Westin Hotel in Edmonton, the Royal Alberta Museum and at many schools and social functions.

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Margaret has also participated in many events to teach and promote her culture. She was one of the 120 Albertans invited to the Smithsonian's 40th annual Folklife Festival in Washington D.C. in 2006. She facilitated the youth venue of the "Iyiniwak Traditional Healing & Medicines Gatherings in 2006, 2007 and 2008 in Saddle Lake, Alberta where sessions were offered on talking sticks, mini-sweet grass basket making, beaded turtle pouch making, and basic bead work. Margaret was also one of the Elders invited to participate in the Elders Forum at the University of Alberta, Faculties of Education, Arts, & Native Studies 10th Annual Canadian Indigenous Language and Literacy Development Institute in 2009.

We are extremely excited to have Margaret as the new addition to the Boreal Centre team. She has so much knowledge and experience to share with us and our lucky visitors. It seems like the future potential of our artistic programming will be subject only to our collective creative capacity!

Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory

Do you enjoy receiving updates and newsletters from the LSLBO? If the answer is yes, then consider taking the next step. If you are not already a member, please join us! Become a part of our research and education programs as a member or volunteer at our banding station this spring. To our current members and volunteers, we greatly appreciate your continued support.

Thank you!

Winter Birding

by Cori Klassen, Boreal Educator

I have a confession to make. As little as 3 years ago if you had put me in front of a bird line up that consisted of let's say a Swainson's Thrush, Yellow Warbler and Common Redpoll and you asked me to point out the Common Redpoll, I wouldn't have been able to. Seriously! And now I can not only ID the Common Redpoll but I can tell you that it is a member of the Finch family **and** that Common Redpolls are a common sight at wintertime bird feeders throughout the Slave Lake region. I can also tell you that birdwatching is addictive!



My cat Lincoln likes bird watching too!

This winter, there is a very healthy flock that seems to spend the majority of the daylight hours eating from my feeders. They can't get enough sunflower seeds and I can't get enough of their cheery little chirps! In the morning they fly in from the deciduous trees behind my house, swooping and sounding their flight calls. Fights often break out over who gets to sit at the birdfeeder which results in the loser sitting away on a nearby branch waiting for his or her turn to feed. Sometimes two

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birds are so busy fighting over who gets to sit at the feeder that other birds move in to eat while the chase is on. Other birds position themselves underneath the feeder and eat the seeds off the ground that have spilled.



Common Redpoll

I love watching the social dynamics of the flock and am trying to figure out the relationships amongst the birds. Is one sex more dominant than the other? Do adults or juveniles get more time at the feeder? I don't have any answers yet but I'm still watching! It may sound strange but I almost feel that by listening to and watching this flock of Redpolls in my yard, I have somehow managed to capture and hold onto a little piece of spring. Redpolls aren't the only visitors to my birdfeeders

though. Other daily visitors include Red Breasted Nuthatches and Black Capped Chickadees. I also sometimes get Blue Jays and rarely a Downy or Hairy Woodpecker. The other day a beautiful Blue Jay was at one of the feeders and I found myself holding my breath and hoping he would stay long enough for me to get a picture. But no such luck, by the time I got back outside with my camera he was gone. Now that the days are getting longer I can actually see and appreciate the birds at my feeder in the mornings before work and not just on my days off.

As much as I love the birds that I get at my feeders in the winter I still find myself thinking about and looking forward to the new species that spring will bring!

Photo Contest!



Enter your winter bird pictures for a chance to win a free one year membership to the LSLBO!

Submit photos to the Fan Album on our Facebook Fan Page.

One more day to Enter!!

Contest closes Mar 24th, 2010

Winter Activities in Color



Instructor Carolyn Feir & student Wade Horton

Below: Wayne & Avery Thera presenting a cheque on behalf of BP Canada Energy Company to Jule Asterisk of the Regional Environmental Action Committee (REAC). Funds raised will be used to create an Alternative Energy Demonstration Site at the Boreal Centre including solar panels to offset our energy consumption and to keep us green!



**Boreal Centre Looking
for Model Families!!**

**Would your family like
to represent us in our
marketing material?**

**For info please call 849-8240 or
email info@borealbirdcentre.ca**

We need new photos!!!



Karl Zielke of KAZ Photographics donates two beautiful wildlife pictures to the Boreal Centre.



*Above: Cori Klassen delivering the new "Seasonal Mix up" program to the local grade 1 class.
Right: Learning winter survival in the Boreal Forest.*



Winter Activities in Color



Demonstrating winter camouflage techniques in the Seasonal Mix-up™ Program. Does he look like a weasel?



Richard Krikun stops to watch a pair of eagles on a cross-country ski adventure at the Boreal Centre.



Brownies & Sparks out for a snowshoe ecology hike



Richard is always willing to help out with the education programs!

Thanks to...



To become a member of the LSLBO, please fill out the information below and send this form, along with a cheque or money order to the address below.

Name: _____ **Telephone:** (____) _____

First Last

Address: _____

Street	City	Province/State	Postal Code/Zip

Email :

Membership Categories (please circle one):

Individual	\$30	Benefactor	\$250
Family	\$60	Life	\$500
Platinum	\$1000		

**Thank you for
supporting the
Lesser Slave Lake
Bird
Observatory!**



Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory

P.O. Box 1076
Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A0
Canada
(780) 849-8240
Fax: (780) 849-8239
www.lslbo.org