



WINTER BIRD COURSE 2012 - LECTURE SERIES

- Place:** Knox Crescent Kensington & First Presbyterian Church, 6225 Godfrey Ave, NDG
- Dates:** Wednesdays: February 8, February 22, March 7 and March 21, 2011
- Time:** 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. (***exceptionally on March 7, the lecture will be held at 8 p.m.**)
- Cost:** \$15 per lecture for BPQ members; \$20 for non-members
- Feb 8:** Gay McDougall-Gruner: **“A Drift of Buntings”**
& Simon Duval An overview of the Snow Bunting
- Feb 22:** Greg Rand: **“Rise and Shine, it’s Dark Outside!”**
The secret lives of Whip-poor-wills and Common Nighthawks
- Mar 7*:** Rodger Titman: **“Let’s Enjoy our Ducks”**
Tips to identify North American waterfowl
- Mar 21:** Chris Cloutier: **“The Early Bird Gets the ... Grub!”**
The intricate lives of birds and insects; co-evolution and adaptation

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2012 Winter Bird Course Lecture Series - Registration Form
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to attend all four lectures: _____

I would like to attend _____ lectures (please circle dates) Feb 8 Feb 22 Mar 7 Mar 21
(\$15 each lecture for members; \$20 for non-members)

Places are limited. Please mail registration form with cheque payable to Bird Protection Quebec or BPQ to:

BPQ Winter Lecture Series
c/o Averill Craig
4414 Mayfair Avenue
Montreal, QC, H4B 2E3

514-484-6575; ak.craig@sympatico.ca
or
514-487-0432; aspeck@videotron.ca

BPQ's 2012 Winter Lecture Series

February 8 ***“A Drift of Buntings”***

An overview of the Snow Bunting

With Simon Duval & Gay McDougall-Gruner

Who has not pulled their car over to watch loose flocks of buntings glide across open fields, their flight giving rise to the species' colloquial name of snowflake? In North America, the Snow Bunting breeds in the Arctic, but winters in the balmy climate of southern Canada. We'll look at nesting behaviour, physiology, plumage changes, habitat and range of the Snow Bunting, and introduce the research of the Canadian Snow Bunting Network.

The lecture will be presented by Simon Duval, Coordinator of McGill Bird Observatory (MBO), and Gay Gruner, Director of MBO. The primary goal of MBO is to monitor migratory birds through banding. In addition to being a centre for scientific research, MBO also serves the local community as a training facility in field-work techniques. Simon and Gay will be participating in the Canadian Snow Bunting Network this year by catching, banding and collecting scientific data on Snow Buntings at various sites within Quebec.

February 22 ***“Rise and Shine, it's Dark Outside!”***

The secret lives of Whip-poor-wills and Common Nighthawks

With Greg Rand

Nightjars are amongst the most elusive birds, their camouflage makes them invisible during the day and their nocturnal habits make it so that very few have had a good look at one! Greg will present the two local nightjar species, their biology, conservation issues as well as some of his research on these species in Northwestern Ontario.

Gregory Rand has always been interested in biology and ecology. Fish, plants, insects were all of interest but in 2004 after being exposed to bird banding for the first time the birds took over! He obtained his Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at McGill University in 2009 and is now pursuing his Master's at Trent University looking. His current research focuses on the stress physiology of species at risk exposed to industrial noise.

March 7 ***“Let's Enjoy Our Ducks”***

Tips to identify North American Waterfowl

With Rodger Titman

A look at ducks both on the water and in flight, noting cues that distinguish one species from another. Dabbling ducks generally sit high in the water and tip-up while divers sit lower and plunge. Specula, posture and vocalization can quickly lead to a positive ID. Different quirks, which are species characteristic, will be highlighted.

Rodger retired in September 2009 from the Department of Natural Resource Sciences, at McGill University where his main academic interest concerned the behavioral ecology of birds, particularly ducks. Since 2000, he has been an instructor in McGill's Canadian Field Studies in Africa program during winter semesters in East Africa. Rodger served on the board of Bird Protection Quebec from 1978 to 2009, including a term as president from 2005 to 2007, and has experience with other conservation organizations having served on the boards of the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Conservation de la Nature Quebec and the St. Lawrence Natural History Society Ecomuseum.

March 21 ***“The Early Bird Gets the ... Grub!”***

The intricate lives of birds and insects; co-evolution and adaptation
With Chris Cloutier

Did you know that the vast majority of our bird species rely entirely or at least partially on insects, directly or indirectly? For millions of years, insects and birds have co-existed on our planet and the co-evolutionary arms race has allowed each of these two very different groups to adapt to one another in some pretty remarkable ways.

The emphasis of this presentation will be focused on species that occur in southern Quebec. It is intended for audiences of all levels of birding or “bugging” experience.

Chris Cloutier received his Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Zoology from McGill University. He has spent the last several years working as an interpretive naturalist in places such as Algonquin Provincial Park, and more recently, the Morgan Arboretum. His studies led him to study insects, and with a particular interest in Entomology, Chris has led many presentations on the subject and many well-attended insect outings over the years. He also works part-time at Vanier College's Environmental and Wildlife Management program teaching among other things; Entomology, Ornithology, and Forestry
