

The program is entitled, "Quebec and the Environment: Discovery and Controversy". A variety of topics will be covered from the mechanics of preservation to the politics of conservation. They promise to tell us about the Snow Geese of the Arctic and the Marine mammals, Caribou, Peregrine Falcons of Quebec.

Numerous exhibits and displays will be set up, including live hawks and owls at the Raptor Research Centre, Wolves at the Morgan Arboretum Wolf Compound, an insect display by the Lyman Museum, a display of rare nature books and prints, an exhibit of nature art, a display of edible wild plants, the R.C.M.P.'s exhibit on the enforcement of migratory bird protection laws, films by Hydro-Quebec, and much more. For the children, there will be tours of Macdonald Farm.

The Prince Edward Island Natural History Society and all CNF members will be receiving a brochure shortly, giving details on where to write for additional information. Start making your plans to attend now.

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YOU SAW A WHAT ?

I've always enjoyed looking at birds, and grew up taking my turn at tossing out bits of bread to feed the little sparrows in the winter, and the Red-wings and "Hammer-Heads" during the summer. That's the basic training I'd had before George and I moved to the Island a little over 7 1/2 years ago. It was early autumn and the man drilling our well, asked me what the little yellow birds were in the trees around our mobile home. Very casually, I replied, "Oh, we call them wild canaries". I think we've come a long way since then and are still travelling!

That first winter we rolled an old 45 gallon oil drum out of the barn and in full view of the living room window, placed a couple of boards on it and a cement block on top to hold the boards. A small investment for some sunflower seeds and we were off to the fun of bird-watching from the comfort of our living room. We were delighted when a flock of 48 Evening Grosbeaks would respond to a whistle from George and come to the feeder while he was standing at it. We've yards of film on these episodes.

Since that beginning we've enjoyed seeing Woodcock, Korean Ring-necked Pheasant, "Huns", Snowy Owls, a Great Horned Owl, Nighthawks, Flickers, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, Phoebes, Bank, Barn and Cliff Swallows, robins, Eastern Bluebirds, chickadees, sparrows of many varieties, Pine Siskins, a pair of Canada Jays, Bluejays, Marsh Hawks, Goshawks, a pair of Rough-legged Hawks, Ospreys, and much to our delight, from 1972 until last Spring, a pair of Bald Eagles.

One of the most interesting events in our new found past-time occurred in very early June of 1977 when my husband came rushing in from one of our blueberry fields and said "Quick, where's the bird book? I just saw the most fascinating bird". While I collected the book, I started asking questions, where? when? how long? what colour etc... so I could begin to work down into an identification. George told me it was black, with white along the side of the neck and had an almost bandit's mask over the eyes and a large red crest. I asked him "Was it as big as a robin?" As he grabbed for the book he said, "My God,

it was as big as a crow" and suddenly he grinned from ear to ear and pointed at a picture. What a sensational bird .. a Pileated Woodpecker! (only recent record for Prince Edward Island - Editor's Note) After he'd watched it for about ten minutes, he accidentally moved and it took off from our field