



THE NATURE CORNER

by Ev. Bell

The month of December saw much activity around the bird feeders in the backyard sanctuary. Large flocks of Evening Grosbeaks, Blue Jays, Gold finches, Chickadees, Tree and English house sparrows and the daily visit of one old crow.

Many pounds of sunflower, mixed bird seed and peanuts were devoured, also special mixed niger and other small seeds for the Goldfinches, Distlefink tube feeder. Several bags of suet were much in demand by the Woodpeckers and Nuthatches and chickadees.

December 28th was the date set for the Annual Christmas bird count in the area by the Kingston Field Naturalists. For the last two years I have been asked to do the Newboro area. Dr. Robert Stewart from Kingston Field Naturalists comes to check the feeders and takes my count, which is added to the total area list for the Audubon Society bird count. These reports have furnished much needed data into a variety of bird life in many regions.

Some winter birds can be readily counted weekly, such regular counts make it possible to study the bird population decreases over a critical period in the bird life of severe winter conditions. Heavy snow storms, sleet, severe cold are causes of food shortages and shelter.

On my count this year I was very pleased to have a pair of Cardinals, that arrived in the Christmas week, a Saw-Whet Owl which is one of the smallest owls, a small grey Screech Owl, a white throat sparrow which for some unknown reason had been left behind during the migration in the fall. Since New Year's I have not seen this bird. However a pair of small Red Polls have arrived on the window feeder. These wee birds with their bright red caps have not been here for three years, they are very erratic wanderers. Still looking for the lovely little Purple Finches to make their appearance.

Do keep those seed feeders filled and the suet logs and bags filled.

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REALTOR

PORTLAND

33 acres of bush, including large stand of pine. 830' on 'year-round' road. Good building site, hydro available. Ask JIM VANDERSCHUIT for more information. Call 272-2701

DOG LAKE, 2 MILES EAST OF BATTERSEA

2 bedroom cottage on well treed lot. 'Year round' access; deep clean water! Priced at \$25,000 - including furniture. Call JIM VANDERSCHUIT 272-2701

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3 acre wooded lakefront lot with 648 ft. frontage. Must be sold to settle an estate. Listed at \$29,500. Please contact GEORGE WING 272-2442

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3 bedroom mobile home with washer, dryer, stove and frig. Situated on a Mobile Home Park near Elgin. Wheels and trailer hitch included. Owners have moved west and have reduced the price to \$5,000. Call GEORGE WING 272-2442

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140 acres with good hunting, some timber and pasture land. Only 5 miles from Westport. Terms to a qualified purchaser. \$65,000. Call JIM WING for details. 273-2852

WESTPORT

Building lot - Concession Street with 82' frontage x 130' depth. Village water and sewers to lot line. Asking \$8,900. Call JIM WING 273-2852

ACCESS TO SAND LAKE

Excellent building lot close to Westport. 133' frontage x 400' depth. This lot overlooks a large pond and offers access to Sand Lake. Asking \$8,000. Call JIM WING 273-2852

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Secluded permanent home on wooded ½ acre lot with 190 ft. of lake frontage. Has a fabulous view, 4 bedrooms, large studio, carpeting, oil & wood heating, fireplace, attached solar greenhouse, decks, garage-workshop, large boat dock with diving board & slip. Year round access. Asking \$119,000. Call BILL for confidential showing. 359-5579

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8 MILES SOUTH OF SMITHS FALLS

Enjoy 'year-round' living on the cleanest lake near town in this cottage-home! 3 bedrooms, living room, dining room and kitchen, sundeck, sandy beach, nicely treed, southern exposure. Asking \$51,500. MLS. Call JIM VANDERSCHUIT 272-2701 or GEORGE WING 272-2442

PORTLAND

2 storey house in the heart of the village. Could easily be converted to a double dwelling. Two sets of stairs, 2 baths, 2 living and dining rooms, two hydro services. Short walking distance to stores, bank, post office, medical centre and the Big Rideau Lake. Priced in the thirties. For more information call GEORGE WING 272-2442 or JIM VANDERSCHUIT 272-2701

PORTLAND AREA

Wood lot, work land and pasture mixture. 47 acres with 979 ft. frontage on a Township Road. About 2 miles from Portland and the Big Rideau Lake. Listed at \$17,900. Please call GEORGE WING 272-2442.

OPINICON LAKE

3 bedroom cottage, completely furnished. Beautiful private lot on picturesque lake. Good road! Listed at \$31,500. Call JIM VANDERSCHUIT 272-2701

GINGER COOKIES

1 cup shortening
1 " brown sugar
1 " light molasses
1 " hot water with
2 tsp soda
1 egg
1 tsp salt
2 tsp ginger
2 tsp cinnamon
2 cups flour
(enough to drop or roll)

Cream shortening, sugar and molasses, add hot water and soda, egg, salt, spices blend well add flour slowly until stiff enough to roll or drop on greased cookie pan