

ONTARIO PURPLE MARTIN ASSOCIATION ---- (Founded in 2000)
www.ontariopurplemartins.ca

Welcome to our new members !

*Richard Beaudry ... St. Catharines
Richard Saar ... Sarnia
Graham Taylor ... Walkerton
Joyce Hostyn ... Kingston*

2025 marks the 25th Anniversary of the Ontario Purple Martin Association!
The conservation efforts of all members, past and present, have undoubtedly had an enduring positive impact for this species, and brought an awareness of their need for help into the public domain.
Thank you to all for caring for these beautiful birds.

Winner of the PMCA membership draw

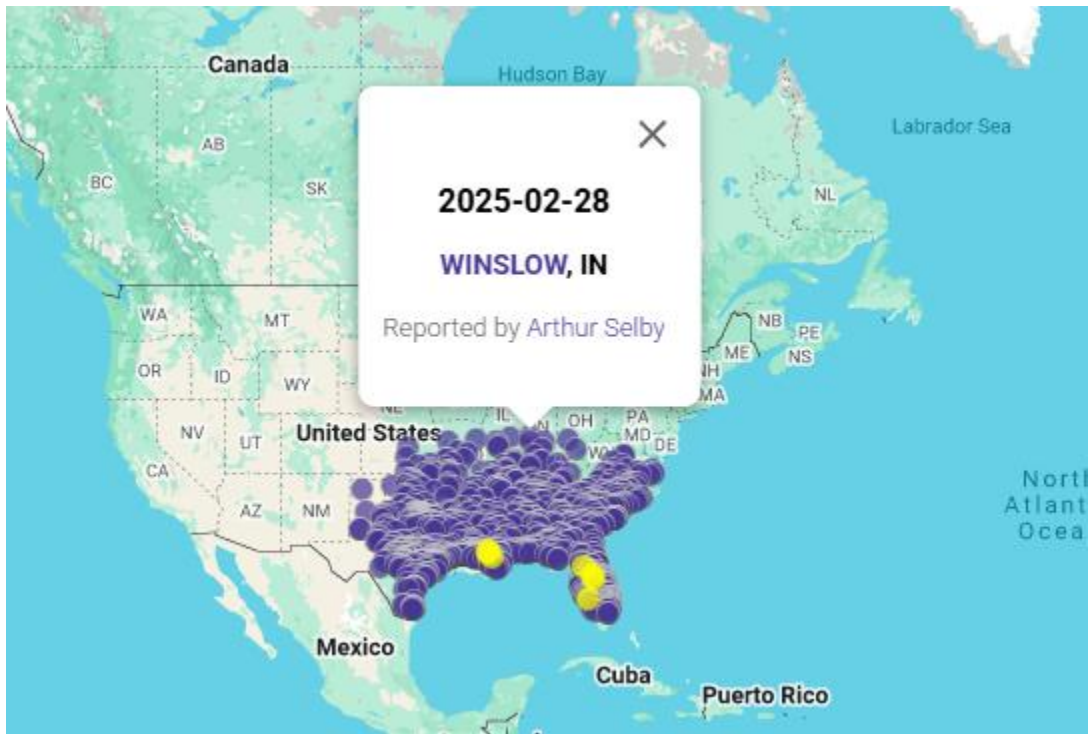
Every year the OPMA draws a name from all of our members for a PMCA membership, courtesy of the OPMA. The lucky winner receives the PMCA's stunning quarterly magazine, as well as a member discount on any purchases from the PMCA's store. And the winner is: Robin Beaune, from Essex.

Congratulations!

..... Incoming Soon! Ontario's Purple Martins 😊

Last year the first Purple Martins that were reported to the Purple Martin Conservation Association's (PMCA) "Scout Map" for Ontario arrived on March 27th. There were three reports for that day, from Norwich, Colchester, and Langton. **We now are rapidly approaching our 2025 Purple Martin season!!!!**

Here is the link to the PMCA's Scout Map, where you can see track the northward movement of our birds.
<https://www.purplemartin.org/research/8/scout-arrival-study/>



The map as of March 1st. By clicking on any dot, we can see the date and location.

A scroll down through this page is very worthwhile:

- Another map shows the range of approximate arrival dates for North America.
- There is an explanation of the benefits of the Scout Map for PM landlords, and how to report (free to everyone) your arrivals.
- Finally, there are excellent photos and details of the four distinct identification classes for Purple Martins.

.....Supplemental Feeding.....

Unfortunately, there seems to have been many birds lost during the migration northward, due to the unusual cold and snow that extended even into the most southern states. Supplemental feeding is a topic of interest for us every spring, as we often see a period of “no-feed” weather for our birds, and we can never be certain that they’ll be returning to optimal feeding conditions.

There is plenty of information available:

- **PMCA** website provides excellent information along with a “how to” video: <https://www.purplemartin.org/feeding/> They also offer:
 - a free forum - it can be viewed without being signed in as a member
 - a PMCA Face Book page.
- Our own **OPMA** website contains all Newsletters and Chatters but due to a technical difficulty they aren’t accessible at present. So for your convenience, **Chatter #2** and **#9** are attached to the email by which you are receiving this newsletter. These issues contain worthwhile information about why, when, what, and how to feed.
- . YouTube videos abound, showing how to fling or flip or toss food for your birds.

A generational legacy of a love of Purple Martins

A thoughtful and generous donation of \$90 was made to the OPMA by the Lakeshore Ladies Book Club of Port Colborne, Ont., in memory of **Joan Baker**, whose memorial included this remembrance of her life:

After Bob’s passing (in 2021) she lived a quiet and peaceful life, remaining in her lakeside home until the end, enjoying the view of Gravelly Bay and her beloved purple martin houses. Raising and removing those martin houses became a family tradition that spanned four generations, always done with much care to ensure a successful flock of martins every spring.

We are very appreciative of this gesture in honour of Joan Baker, and of her family’s dedication to the Purple Martins who call their place home.