



The Orchid

Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists

"Know ♦ Appreciate ♦ Conserve Nature In All Its Forms"

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While not sighted in the Kawarthas Area, I thought this was interesting enough to share anyway. On a visit to Awenda Provincial Park, located on Georgian Bay, in August, we encountered a pair of juvenile Turkey Vultures nesting under a shed in the Park. The birds apparently will nest in a variety of places (rock crevices, caves, ledges, mammal burrows, hollow logs, abandoned hawk/heron nests or abandoned buildings). According to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology 'All About Birds' website (www.allaboutbirds.org), Turkey Vultures have been increasing in number across North America since the 1980s and are one of our largest carnivorous birds, although they seldom attack living prey.

Photo by Rebecca Zeran, August 29, 2013.

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Coming Events

<p>Sundays Sept 1 - Oct 27</p> <p>8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Meet in the Peterborough Zoo Parking Lot</p>	<p>Autumn Sunday Morning Wildlife Walks</p> <p>These informal walks will take place every Sunday from September 1st to October 27th. They will start at 8.00a.m. and involve carpooling from the parking lot of the Peterborough Zoo on Water Street to local sites of interest. The outings generally last around three hours in total. Bring some change to donate toward gas costs and remember to bring binoculars. The destination(s) will be confirmed on the day. Trip leaders are as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Sept 1 – Jerry Ball</td><td>Oct 6 – Martin Parker</td></tr> <tr> <td>Sept 8 – Tony Bigg</td><td>Oct 13 - TBD</td></tr> <tr> <td>Sept 15 – Martin Parker</td><td>Oct 20 – Drew Monkman</td></tr> <tr> <td>Sept 22 – Tony Bigg</td><td>Oct 27 – Jerry Ball</td></tr> <tr> <td>Sept 29 – Mike McMurtry</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Sept 1 – Jerry Ball	Oct 6 – Martin Parker	Sept 8 – Tony Bigg	Oct 13 - TBD	Sept 15 – Martin Parker	Oct 20 – Drew Monkman	Sept 22 – Tony Bigg	Oct 27 – Jerry Ball	Sept 29 – Mike McMurtry	
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<p>Wednesday Sept 11th 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Ptbo Library</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting: Naturalist in Vietnam</p> <p>PFN member, Trip Coordinator for Ontario Field Ornithologists, and President of Flora and Fauna Tours, Dave Milsom, will be giving an illustrated presentation on the recent tour he led to Vietnam in Southeastern Asia. Dave is a keen naturalist and nature photographer whose interest in the natural world includes wildflowers, birds, butterflies, and dragonflies. At this meeting Dave will provide an introduction to the varied habitats in Vietnam and its nature, birds, other animals and plants. The meeting commences in the auditorium of the Peterborough Public Library, Aylmer Street, at 7:30 p.m.</p>										
<p>Thursday September 12th</p> <p>7:00 – 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>Peterborough Public Library</p>	<p>Understanding Climate Change</p> <p>Guy Hanchet, a local resident who has been trained by Climate Reality Canada in a session led by former U.S. Vice President and Nobel Laureate Al Gore, will speak on the science as well as the causes and impacts of climate change at the global, national and regional levels. He will also present an overview <u>of recent extreme</u> meteorological events and explain the linkages between human activities and the intensification and frequency of events such as floods, droughts and storms. To conclude the presentation, solutions will be presented that can be incorporated and adopted by individuals, businesses and communities to help mitigate climate change. A question and answer session will follow the presentation. This free event is sponsored by the Peterborough chapter of For Our Grandchildren, an organization working to connect and empower grandparents and prospective grandparents who are concerned about the impending effects of climate change. Everyone is welcome to attend and refreshments will be served.</p>										
<p>Wednesday Oct 9th 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Ptbo Library</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting: Shorebird Ecology and Conservation</p> <p>Speakers: Colleen Murchison and Johanna Perz</p>										
<p>November 3rd</p> <p>8:00 a.m.</p>	<p>PFN Outing: Birding at Presqu'ile Provincial Park</p> <p>Jerry Ball leads a day-long trip to view migrant birds at Presqu'ile Provincial Park, with other stops of interest on the way. In particular, expect to see many interesting waterfowl. Bring a packed lunch, binoculars and, if you have them, rubber boots (not essential). Meet at 8am at the Country Style at the junction of Old Keene Road and Highway 7, east of Peterborough. We will likely car pool, so bring a contribution for gas and the entry fee to the park.</p>										

Junior Field Naturalists

Details for the September JFN outing were not available at the time of publication. Please check the PFN website, www.peterboroughnature.org, for the information.



PFN Officers and Directors

President	Martin Parker	Mparker19@cogeco.ca	745-4750
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Special Projects	Kelly Boadway	kjboadway@gmail.com	775-0756
Special Projects	Lynn Smith	smithfam@nexicom.net	944-5599

Other Volunteers

Bird Feeders	Sean Smith & Don Finigan	
Orchid Diary	Tony Bigg	652-7541
Orchid Mailout	TBD	
Jr. Naturalists	Neil Fortin	292-6185
Local Planning Committees	Jim Cashmore	



Other Events of Interest

FABULOUS FALL FUNGI. Discover the wonderful world of mushrooms and other fungi in this three-day workshop. Hands-on identification, plus discussions on ecology, uses and etymology. Dates: Oct 1-4, 2013. Cost: \$350. Includes 3 nights' accommodation, meals, instruction, use of lab space & microscopes. Small class size (max 12 students). Location: Queen's University Biological Station. Details: www.queensu.ca/qubs.



ORCHID SUBMISSIONS WANTED

Deadline for submissions for the October issue: Friday, September 27th, 2013

Please send all submissions to: **Rebecca Zeran, PFN, PO Box 1532, Peterborough, ON, K9J 7H7** or via e-mail to: rebecca.zeran@mail.mcgill.ca

Book Review: “For The Birds: Recollections and Rambles” by Fred Helleiner

-by Peter Adams, Professor Emeritus, Trent University and former MPP and MP (Peterborough)

Fred Helleiner is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Geography, Trent University, a department of which he was a founder. He is also an internationally-known birder who has devoted more than six decades to observing and listening to the birds of Ontario. He now lives, as a sort of birder-in-residence, in a birders' paradise, Presqu'ile Park, Ontario.

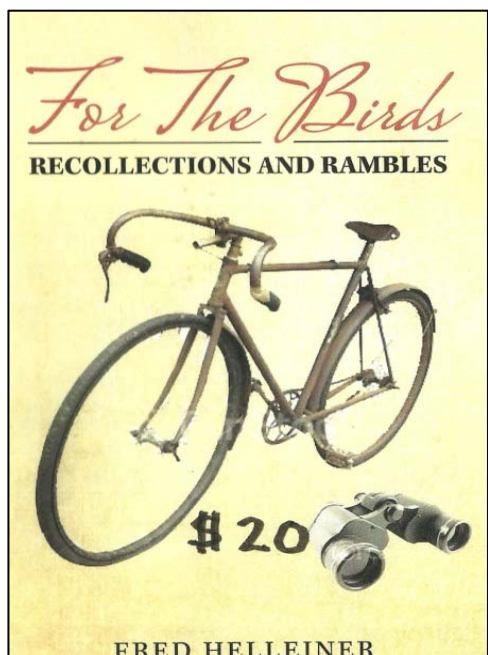
He has published a memoir, *For the Birds: Recollections and Rambles**, on his life as a birder. This is a personal history of birding in Ontario from the 1940s to today. It is the story of a boy who began serious birding at the age of six and of a man who now has an on-going, Canada-only, life list of 440 birds.

The book describes birding through an elementary school window, birding by street car in Toronto, birding by bicycle, bus and car, around Toronto and then birding all over the Province, notably in Northern Ontario, and across Canada, notably in northern Alberta, and around the world. It brings the reader from the days when precise identification of birds included shooting a good specimen to today when the sighting of a rare visitor can attract hundreds of bird identifiers within hours.

This book captures the excitement of: the first sightings of a boy and a man, of that first published note at age 12, and the pleasure, at day's end, of filling out a day book which today contains continuous records of sightings begun in 1947. It deals anecdotally with the evolution of birding (e.g. the roles of banding, pishing, road kill and chauvinism in the ranks, down to the code of ethics of modern instant-response birding).

In addition to a wealth of information about birds and the practice of birding, Fred's book tracks the organizations and personalities associated with birding in Ontario for most of 20th century, notably in Toronto, Peterborough (the Field Naturalists and Trent University) and Kirkland Lake.

A disappointment! The bike on the book cover is clearly not Fred's (his appears on p. 27). Perhaps he is planning to go in the Tour de France to extend his already lengthy list of birds of the French Alps?



Although I once spoke convincingly (I thought) in the Legislature of Ontario on the first Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Ontario, with which Fred was very much involved, and although much of my working life was spent listening to birding jokes and learning about the frequency of birding metaphors in the English language (e.g. “..took me under his wing..”, p.38 and “fledgling club..”, p. 51), I am not a birder. Nevertheless, I do not hesitate to recommend this book to anyone with an interest in birds, in all their glorious diversity of form and behaviour, and to anyone interested in that same diversity among human beings. It is a gem.

**For the Birds: Recollections and Rambles by Fred Helleiner, Willow Printing and Publishing Co., Brighton, Ontario, copyright Fred Helleiner, 2013, 71p., \$20:00 (+ \$2 postage) from Fred Helleiner, 186 Bayshore Rd., Brighton, ON K0K 1H0 (access via Presqu'ile Park). Proceeds to Friends of Presqu'ile Environmental Fund.*

Bronte and Red-Necked Grebes

-by June Hitchcox, courtesy of the Apsley Voice

Recently, I sold my house in Burlington and moved to an apartment which looks out over Lake Ontario and Bronte Harbour in West Oakville. The Waterfront Trail along Lake Ontario from Niagara-on-the-Lake to the Quebec Border, runs along between my apartment building and Lake Ontario, making it easy to walk my poodle, Lucy, to the Bronte Marina Park. Some years ago, before the Marina, people moored their boats to floating tires and sometimes water birds would build their nests in those tires. Now, a large, calm pond, connected to the lake, has been built, (no boats there), and some large nest-sized frames float in this pond. For more than one year, a pair of Red-necked Grebes has built a nest in one of these frames. To be able to observe these rare Grebes up close, within a few feet of the path, has brought many people to stop and enjoy these very uncommon birds as well as many Naturalists with their binoculars and telescopes – a real treat. Last week we watched 2 young swimming with their parents near the nest, sometimes hopping on a parent's back for a bit of a rest. At night, all go back to the nest. A Naturalist told me that there were still many unhatched eggs in the nest! Red-necked Grebes are the [third] largest Grebes in North America – comparable to a fair-sized duck. Recognize them by their breeding plumage – long, rufous-red necks and white cheeks. They usually winter in the Atlantic or Pacific Oceans and fly inland to nest, mainly west of Thunder Bay but in the last few years nests have been confirmed in many areas of Ontario, including 6 breeding pairs at the western end of Lake Ontario in the early 2000's. Their nests are on the water, anchored on dead mats (either on or under the water) of vegetation. The pair at the Marina must have thought it great good luck to have a stationary frame for their nest!

Killdeer, part of the Plover Family

-by June Hitchcox, courtesy of the Apsley Voice

A little late in the season to be talking about nesting Killdeer but they are fascinating Shorebirds birds and I have been watching a pair nesting at the Bronte Marine Park all summer and thought that you might be interested. Killdeer are the same colour all year: brown above, white below; 9"to11 1/4" long; 2 black breast-bands (juvenile has just one); black bill; rusty-orange on rump and tail. They eat grubs, insects, worms, suddenly sprinting across the ground and coming to a sudden stop to eat. Their nest right out in the open on the ground: golf courses; pastures; roof tops; fields; sandy beaches; gravel paths and parking lots – just a scrape in the ground, sparsely lined with bits of grass – 4 pale-buff, spotted eggs that blend well with the surroundings. Both parents share the 24 +- day incubation (the large amount of yolk in Killdeer eggs require a longer incubation than, for instance, the eggs of song birds) - and 25 days until fledged. Chicks have stripes on the back for camouflage. Nesting begins as early as April – cold – and they often have a second brood. To keep the eggs warm, when sitting on the eggs, they let down a patch of feathers known as "brood patch" to allow their warm skin to contact the eggs to keep them warm. Killdeer have devised several tricks to keep intruders away: "broken wing" - they feign a broken wing, dragging it and limping along while running away from the nest area, showing their orange rump and tail which resemble blood, with the intruder in full pursuit – then fly away when far from the nest. Another trick is to sit on an imaginary nest – then fly away. They also are very noisy – screaming "kill-dee", which distracts an intruder from looking for the nest and that is the call which gave it its name. Smart bird, The Killdeer.

Snow Buntings

-by June Hitchcox, courtesy of the Apsley Voice

By October, many of our summer birds have migrated. Taking their place, are the species that nest in the far north such as water birds (ducks etc.) that will move on as the lakes freeze. Some northern land birds will not move on, such as the Tree Sparrow, hoping to find food that may be very scarce farther north. Other birds just don't migrate – Chickadees, Nuthatches, Woodpeckers – although they move around a bit. With fewer species around, it is a little easier to identify the ones that stay. Snow Buntings breed in the Tundra – farther north than any other land bird in the world! They all leave the Tundra and migrate our way, arriving in mid October and leaving the first part of April. Snow Buntings are robust ground Finches, sparrow-sized and in winter have an orange bill and a brownish wash on the feathers of the crown and upper parts. This brown wears off by Spring and they become a beautiful black and white. When flying overhead, they look almost entirely white. They fly in tight flocks of 100 or so, often with Horned Larks and Lapland Longspurs, drifting over a field like snowflakes. An open-country bird, they can be seen along road-sides, beaches, parking lots, newly-manured fields, searching for gravel and weed seeds that project above the snow. They are attracted, in very severe weather, to generous amounts of hay chaff + oat groats, spread on hard-packed snow. On very cold nights, Buntings dive right under the snow and sleep there, safe and warm. A lovely bird – hope that you are lucky and see some!

Canadian Wildlife Federation Photo Contest is Open!

-from CWF e-news (visit www.cwf-fcf.org for more information)

It's that time of year, and we're happy to announce the launch of CWF's 2013 Reflections of Nature Photo Contest (. This year we're doing something a bit different. We're hosting two Reflections of Nature Photo Contests! One will be for amateur photographers only, whereas the other is for professional photographers. The theme, categories and prizes are the same for both contests.

Inspire is this year's theme, and we hope you'll celebrate with us by sharing your amazing photography! Show us what inspires you. It could be that breathtaking view from the cottage, a close-up of a ladybug or a shot of a path in an enchanted-looking forest. Whatever it is, we would love to see what inspires you! Need some inspiration? Check out the photography challenges we've issued so far to our By Popular Vote participants. You have until October 31 to submit your photos. Winning photos will be selected in five categories: Flora, Fauna, Landscape, Urban Wildlife and overall Grand Prize winner.

For both the professional and amateur contests, the grand prize winner will receive a \$1,000 gift card to the retailer of their choice and a one-year subscription to *Canadian Wildlife* or *Biosphère* magazine. All winners will have their photos published in the January/February 2014 issue. They will also receive a poster of their photos courtesy of PosterJack.

So start snapping today and submit the winning shot!

Please note: the amateur contest opens August 1, the professional entries begin mid-August.

For more information on the contest visit: <http://www.cwf-fcf.org/en/discover-wildlife/photography/>

Lack of Monarchs on Petroglyphs Butterfly Count

-by Martin Parker and Gerry Ball

The 16th annual Petroglyphs Butterfly Count was held on Saturday, July 20th on the day after the storm with pleasant temperatures compared to the just ended heat wave. The 15 participants covered a circle contained within a diameter of 24 km which included the south shore at the eastern end of Stoney Lake northwards to the Apsley and Jacks Lake area, bordered on the west by Highway 28 and on the east by Peterborough County Road 46. Unlike bird counts, the butterflies do not become active until about 10 am and the count continued until about 5 p.m.

According to the count organizer, Gerry Ball, the results were very good with a total of 54 different species of butterflies being found. The 6 field parties managed to see between 24 and 37 species each. A grand total of 5,038 butterflies were recorded. The most abundant species was the Dun Skipper with a total of 2,760. This count traditionally has the most Dun Skippers of any count in North America.

The absence of Monarch butterflies was striking. The annual migration into Ontario has not occurred to the same degree as previous years. It has been estimated that the number of Monarchs which returned to Canada from the wintering grounds in Mexico is down by 90%. This year the participants only managed to find a total of 7 Monarch butterflies during the day. Last year a total of 301 Monarchs were found.

Ball noted the participants found a total of seven different species of hairstreaks, a family of small butterflies which are difficult to locate. Last year six species were found but in low numbers due to the early arrival of spring and summer resulting in the earlier than normal emergence of the flying adults which reduced populations before the count.

The nectar bearing wildflowers, especially Swamp Milkweed, Common Milkweed, Viper's Bugloss, and Purple Loosestrife at various locations hosted large numbers of butterflies especially the small skippers.

Total Count Results:

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail 2, Mustard White 3, Cabbage White 3, Clouded Sulphur 55, Orange Sulphur 1, Pink-edged Sulphur 8, Bog Copper 1, Acadian Hairstreak 18, Coral Hairstreak 43, Banded Hairstreak, 48, Hickory Hairstreak 4, Edward's Hairstreak 1, Striped Hairstreak 27, Gray Hairstreak 1, Eastern Tailed Blue 14, Summer Azure 9, Great Spangled Fritillary 136, Aphrodite Fritillary 52, Atlantis Fritillary 13, Silver-bordered Fritillary 1, Meadow Fritillary 1, Pearl Crescent 50, Northern Crescent 411, Questionmark 1, Mourning Cloak 5, American Lady 6, Common Buckeye 1, White Admiral 11, Viceroy 4, Northern Pearly-Eye 12, Eyed Brown 78, Appalachian Brown 2, Little Wood-Satyr 2, Common Ringlet 1, Common Wood-Nymph 70, Monarch 7, Silver-spotted Skipper 1, Dreamy Duskywing 1, Columbine Duskywing 9, Delaware Skipper 163, Least Skipper 28, European Skipper 33, Peck's Skipper 73, Tawny-edged Skipper 11, Crossline Skipper 12, Long Dash 13, Northern Broken-Dash 37, Little Glassywing 15, Hobomok Skipper 11, Muberry Wing 131, Broad-winged Skipper 482, Dion Skipper 113, Two-spotted Skipper 19, Dun Skipper 2,760. There were also 1 unidentified swallowtail, 13 unidentified hairstreaks, 9 unidentified fritillaries and 1 unidentified skipper along with 1 American Lady Caterpillar found



PFN Butterfly outing on July 6 2013, Sandy Lake Road, Peterborough County. Photo by Kathy Parker.

From the Archives: 'Algonquin Canoe Trip'

-submitted by Martin Parker

This article by Drew Monkman & Haig Kelly Jr, is from the October 1963 (Vol. 8, No 9) of The Orchid. Did this article start Drew Monkman on his career as an accomplished author and columnist?

'We rose early Saturday morning to leave for the Algonquin Wilderness after preparing and arranging for the trip for many days. We arrived early the next morning at our destination to be towed up Opeongo to our portage. After portaging our canoes and equipment we set out from Proulx Lake to Crowe River. While passing through Crowe River we saw Blue Heron and 2 kinds of duck and also a few other species of birds.

After arriving at our campsite we took a short nature walk and to our astonished eyes we saw the remains of a moose, and we also saw a few birds and plants. Crossing the lake we climbed a very high wooded hill and came upon a fire tower which was estimated at 50 ft. Looking out over the beautiful scenery, the colour seemed to blind our eyes. After arriving back to our campsite we had a delicious meal and later turned in for the night.

Arising the next morning we ate breakfast and took a quick nature walk through the forest. With time running out we came back to repack for the return trip home. Just as we were leaving a number of Canada/Gray Jays flew in for a morning snack. Taking out some bread we scattered pieces on the ground which they took. It was a long and tiring trip home but it was well worth the effort.

Birds seen: Common Loon, Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Black Duck, Wood Duck, Common Merganser, Marsh Hawk (now Northern Harrier), Herring Gull, Belted Kingfisher, Pileated Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Gray Jay (now Canada Jay), Blue Jay, Common Raven, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Robin, Water Pipit (now American Pipit), Myrtle Warbler (now Yellow-rumped Warbler), Black-throated Green Warbler, Grackle, Chipping Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Slate-coloured Junco, Song Sparrow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Boreal Chickadee, Brown Creeper, Rusty Blackbird, Nashville Warbler.

Members of the trip: Ian Baiklock, Cy Monkman, Doug Sadler and ourselves.'

Additional Comments by Drew in March 2013: "I remember the trip well, especially how impressed I was as a boy by Doug Sadler's seemingly magical ability to identify birds. The trip - and especially Doug's knowledge and willingness to help me as a beginning birder - was one of several very influential experiences I had as a boy that piqued my interest in nature. I remember when we climbed the fire tower, there was still a ranger working there whose job it was to watch for fires. What I remember most, however, was that he chewed tobacco and spit out the juice into a big can. While we were there, he emptied the can out the window of the tower which impressed me to no end!"



Doug, Drew and Haig in Algonquin Park, 1963. Photo originally printed in The Orchid 1964.



The **ORCHID DIARY** for **May 1 - August 30, 2013**

Compiled by Tony Bigg, 652-7541, tanddbigg@sympatico.ca

I am afraid that I was indisposed at the end of last May and unable to report in the last Orchid. Thus the length of this diary. The highlights of these last four months are the number of sightings of Peregrine Falcons in downtown Peterborough, and the number of sightings of Great Egrets. I understand that Peregrine Falcons are now breeding in the County in North Kawartha. Also there are now three breeding pairs of Bald Eagles in the county. Two sightings of Black-crowned Night-Herons is interesting as is the sighting of a Western Kingbird for the second year in a row.

- May 01 Walking his dog on the Pencier trail at the Trent Wildlife Centre, Luke Berg (LB) saw /heard seven **Northern Waterthrushes**, a singing **Palm Warbler**, a flock of five adult male **Yellow-rumped Warblers** and a singing **Black-and-white Warbler**. Later in the evening at a friend's farm he added **Eastern Kingbird**, **Yellow Warbler**, **American Bittern**, **Wilson's Snipe**, **Green Heron**, and male **Eastern Towhee**. Tony Bigg (TB) had his first-of-the-year (FOY) **Mustard White** and **Spring Azure** butterflies in his garden.
- May 02 Scott McKinlay saw his FOY **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** visiting his feeder. On Elmhurst Road this morning, Drew Monkman saw an **Eastern Kingbird** and two **Sandhill Cranes** (flying and calling). **Trout Lily** was in bloom, as well. Sue Wurtele (e-birds) saw a **Peregrine Falcon** sitting atop the MNR Building in Peterborough, eating a black bird, possibly a crow. Another crow was circling around, obviously distressed. A **Purple Martin** was reported (e-birds) by Kim Clark at the Tamarac Golf Club. Chris Risley reported (e-birds) an **Orchard Oriole** in top of a maple tree near the west end of London Street foot bridge.
- May 03 Karen Peckan and Stewart MacDonald saw a **Great Gray Owl** on Stony Lake Rd (Cty Rd 6) at 3:00 pm between the Bethel Church and Hall's Glen. Apparently the bird had been sitting there since 10:00 am in the morning. Walking the TCT between Blezard Line and Cty Rd 38 TB saw a **Broad-winged Hawk**, **Yellow Warbler**, **Nashville Warbler** and **Eastern Kingbird**. After three hot days in a row he was expecting to see dozens of butterflies but instead only found one **Spring Azure**. Where are all the butterflies? On Base Line at the high point west of Heritage Line near McGregor Bay Rd he heard a **Vesper Sparrow** singing. Don McLeod had 26 **Common Map Turtles** basking on logs along the shore of Rice Lake. There were also a few **Midland Painted Turtles**.
- May 04 Walking his dog in the early morning TB listened to **Warbling Vireos** singing throughout the Lakefield Park. He saw a **Green Heron** fly in and land on the tallest tree by the viewing tower, and heard an **American Bittern** calling from the back of the marsh. FOY birds seen later by TB were **Ovenbird** on Nichol's Cove Rd, three **Least Flycatchers** on Tie Mountain Rd. TB also noted that areas on this road were carpeted with **Spring Beauty**. Greg (?) saw his FOY **Green Darner** at the wetland on University Rd. He also saw a **Great Crested Flycatcher** there. Karen Peckan reports that her male **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** is back on her property at Julia's Creek on Stony Lake.
- May 05 A **Baltimore Oriole** was heard by Toni Sinclair in the trees above her house on Six Foot Bay Rd near Buckhorn. Robert DiFruscia found Eastern **Pine Elfin**, **Hoary Elfin**, and **Henry's Elfin** butterflies on Sandy Lake Rd. Brendan Boyd heard an **Upland Sandpiper** calling near the old farmhouse foundation on the #rd Line of Douro.
- May 06 TB and Robert DiFruscia found the three butterflies reported for yesterday plus they added **Brown Elfin**, **Chryxus Arctic**, and **Olympia Marble (Robert only)**. They also saw three **Blue-headed Vireos**, a **Chestnut-sided Warbler**, and an **American Redstart**.
- May 07 Both **Sora** and **Virginia Rails** were heard calling by TB, at 10:30 am, from the swamp/marsh in the south-east corner of the TCT and David Fife Line. He also saw a **Snowshoe Hare** in the area.
- May 09 Both Toni Sinclair (Buckhorn) and Scott McKinlay (Cavan) had their first **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** at their feeders. Scott also had a **Pine Siskin** and a female **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** in his yard.
- May 10 In the Haroldtown CA on Old Norwood Rd, LB heard/saw **Red-eyed Vireo**, **Gray Catbird**, **Baltimore Oriole**, **Purple Finch**, **Scarlet Tanager**, **Black-throated Blue Warbler**, and **Bobolink**.
- May 11 A **Great Crested Flycatcher** returned to Rick Stankiewicz's garden on Hazel Crescent, near Cty Rd 2. Drew Monkman found a **Northern Parula Warbler**, and a **Common Raven** among other birds, in the Trent Wildlife Sanctuary.

- May 14 Rob Welsh had two **Bonaparte's Gulls** on Stony Lake. They were on an islet about 200 metres east of Eaglemount in Lower Stony.
- May 16 TB made a trip to the NE of the County and found thirteen species of warblers - **Yellow Warbler, Ovenbird, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, , Pine Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, and Golden-winged Warbler**. The latter two warblers both sang their regular songs and their alternate songs. Tony had heard the Golden-winged sing the alternate song several times before but never the Blue-winged. Other noteworthy bird sightings were **Great Crested Flycatcher, Blue-winged Teal** (pair), **Red-eyed-, Warbling and Blue-headed Vireos, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Scarlet Tanager, Winter Wren, Least Flycatcher, and Broad-winged Hawk**. Two **Groundhogs**, two **Northern Water Snakes, Midland Painted Turtles**, and a large **Snapping Turtle** were also seen. Butterflies were still scarce, but TB did pick up his FOY **Olympia Marble and Juvenal's Duskywing**.
- May 16 Mike Faught photographed a **Barred Owl** at Reid and Hunter near downtown Peterborough.
- May 17 On Tie's Mountain Rd, Jerry Ball (JB) had a **Winter Wren, Nashville Warbler, Broad-winged Hawk, and Wood Thrush**. He also saw a **Merlin** on Charlie Allen Rd. he also saw a **West Virginia White** on this road.
- May 18 On Nichols Cove Road Brendan Boyd found a male **Brewster's Warbler** that was singing the typical Blue-winged song in the same spot that he had one last year, a **Clay-coloured Sparrow** and two **Eastern Towhees** singing from the same field. At Deer Bay Road, north of Buckhorn Lake he had a singing **Yellow-throated Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Black and White Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird and Scarlet Tanager** among others. On Beaver Lake Road I had **Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Pine, Chestnut-sided, Nashville, Black and White, Northern Waterthrush and Ovenbird**. JB found a **Dreamy Duskywing** on Sandy Lake Rd.
- May 19 This evening, for a brief moment, Gary Aitkens had a **Red-headed Woodpecker** at his feeder. He was able to get a photograph.
- May 20 A **Blackpoll Warbler** was seen at Julia's Creek by Karen Peckan. She also saw a parent and baby **River Otter** crossing Stony Lake Rd where Dummer Lake flows into Stony Lake. TB saw three **Black Swallowtails** and four **Clouded Sulphurs** on Nelson Rd just north of Base Line. On Base Line TB saw/heard **Alder Flycatchers**.
- May 21 TB saw a **Silvery Blue** and heard/saw a **Willow Flycatcher** on the TCT between Base and David Fife Lines.
- May 22 On the TCT between Cameron Line and Cty Rd 38 TB and JB added **Harvester (TB), Cherry Gall Azure (JB & TB), Canadian Tiger Swallowtail (JB), and Meadow Fritillary (JB)** for the year. On the 6th Line of Belmont, JB saw a **Common Gallinule**. TB heard a **Vesper Sparrow** singing on Cameron Line just south of Hwy 7, and saw an **Indigo Bunting** on the TCT. Rob Welsh observed a **Common Nighthawk** flying near Dodsworth Island on Stony Lake.
- May 23 On the TCT between Villiers and Blezard Lines, TB saw a **Blackpoll Warbler** and an **Eastern Wood-Pewee**.
- May 24 An **Eastern Hognose Snake** was identified by Ale McCubbin in his neighbours backyard in Cottesloe.
- May 25 JB saw a **Horned Lark** on Base Line near Crowley Line. He also noted **Chalk-fronted Corporal, Common Whitetail, Dot-tailed Whiteface, and Four-spotted Skimmer** dragonflies on the TCT between Blezard and Cameron Lines. An **American Lady** was seen by TB on Jack Lake Rd
- May 26 A **Common Nighthawk** was seen by LB, circling over the University Rd wetlands. He noted that the wetlands had been drained (beaver dam opened?). Ten **Killdeer** were on the ground. He saw about ten **Black Terns** over the Otonabee River south of Lakefield. A **Red-shouldered Hawk** was seen by JB on Charlie Allen Rd. He saw an **Ebony Jewelwing** on Pencil Lake Rd. Diane Ferguson saw a rare **Varied Thrush** early this evening at her Jack Lake cottage.
- May 27 A **Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher** was heard/sen and photographed by LB at the Haroldtown CA on the Old Norwood Rd. This evening, a **Polyphemus Moth** appeared on the livingroom window of Sabine Overink on Cty Rd 6, Lakefield. Whilst doing a Marsh Monitoring program at the Villiers Marsh and on marshes on the TCT east of Villiers Line, JB & TB heard/saw **Wood Ducks, Least Bittern, Virginia Rail, Sora, Sandhill Crane, Alder Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Marsh Wren, Veery, and Green Heron**, amongst other common birds. Later JB saw **Common Roadside-Skipper, and Eastern Tailed-Blue** on Devil's 4 Mile Rd. On the TCT between Cameron and Cty Rd 38, TB saw a **Silver-bordered Fritillary**. A **Peregrine Falcon** was seen at 7:30 in the morning on Water Street by Iain Rayner. It flew by, a really big stocky falcon with pointed wing, banked, reversed direction and landed on the George Street United Church spire at McDonnell and Water St.

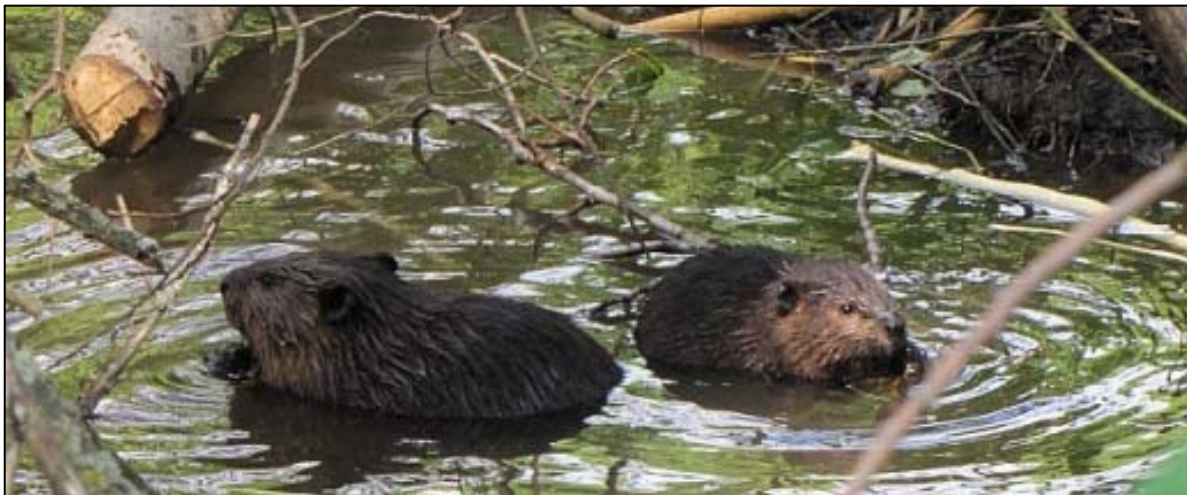
- May 28 The drained wetland on University Rd was checked by LB with the following shorebirds being seen - one **Semipalmated Plover**, two **Least Sandpipers**, one **Solitary Sandpiper**, one **Spotted Sandpiper**, many **Killdeer**. He also saw a possible Fish Crow just south of the wetland.
- May 30 Rick Stankiewicz watched a large **Blanding's Turtle** walk across his lawn on Hazel Crescent, just south of Cty Rd 2. Again on the University Rd wetlands LB saw **Sanderlings**, **Semipalmated Sandpipers**, **Killdeer**, **Semipalmated Plovers**, **Spotted Sandpipers**, **White-rumped Sandpiper**, and a female **Wilson's Phalarope**. He also saw a **Green Heron** and many **Great Blue Herons** on their nests.
- Jun 03 JB had a FOY **Little Wood Satyr** on Jack Lake Rd.
- Jun 04 Whilst driving Tara Rd in Ennismore, Bryan Wyatt saw an **Upland Sandpiper** flying and then landing on top of a telephone pole. On the TCT between Cameron Line and Cty Rd 38 JB saw a **Black-billed Cuckoo** and had FOY **Northern Crescent** and **Harvester**.
- Jun 05 On Charlie Allen Rd JB found the FOY **Monarch**.
- Jun 09 A **Great Egret** was seen by Rose Mary & Claudio Rosada flying over the wetland on University Rd. In the morning JB & TB saw the FOY **White Admiral** on the TCT between Villiers and Blezard Lines. In the afternoon on Charlie Allen Rd, JB had a **Hairy-tailed Mole**, and FOY **Indian Skipper**. On Beaver Lake Rd he also had a FOY **Bog Fritillary**. TB found a FOY **Pearl Crescent** on the TCT between Cameron Line and Cty Rd 38.
- Jun 12 JB had FOY **Least Skipper** and **Silver-spotted Skipper** on the TCT between Blezard and Cameron Lines.
- Jun 14 JB & TB found a FOY **Silvery Checkerspot** on Charlie Allen Rd, and a **Giant Swallowtail** in TB's garden in Lakefield.
- Jun 15 TB & LB completed a Breeding Bird Survey route from Birdsall Rd north to Stony Lake Rd. The number of species (72) was close to the average (73) as was the total number of individual birds (870) as compared to the average (908). One new bird was added to the overall species list - **Common Merganser** (134 in 24 years). Later in the day LB saw a **Redhead** in the University Rd wetlands. JB added two FOY butterflies on Long Lake Rd - **Long Dash** and **Harris' Checkerspot**.
- Jun 18 TB & JB found FOY **European Skippers** and a **Pepper & Salt Skipper** on Jack Lake Rd. A late evening drive by LB resulted in his sighting of a **Great Horned Owl** at the wetland on University Rd, a **Red-shouldered Hawk** calling at the bridge on Rock Rd near Warsaw, three **Gray Wolves** calling, and four **Eastern Whip-poor-wills** calling on the Centre Dummer Rd.
- Jun 19 On Sandy Lake Rd JB & TB found five FOY **Tawny Crescents**.
- Jun 20 On the TCT between Base and Settlers Lines JB & TB found FOY **Bronze Copper** and a **Baltimore Checkerspot** caterpillar.
- Jun 22 TB & LB completed a Breeding Bird Survey route from Petroglyphs PP east and north to just north of Twin Lakes on Cty Rd 46. The number of species (71) was lower than the average (75) as was the total number of individual birds (585) as compared to the average (727). On the way to the starting point they stopped at the east end of Stony Lake to hear **Common Nighthawks** and **Eastern Whip-poor-wills** calling. They also drove up close enough for LB to photograph a nighthawk sitting on the road.
- Jun 23 Bryan Wyatt reports watching a pair of **Great Crested Flycatchers** building a nest in a metal martin house in their garden on Gannon Bay in Upper Buckhorn Lake.
- Jun 25 Wayne Andrew saw a **Black-crowned Night-Heron** perched on the dead top branches of a tree right beside the Otonabee River, just north of the "Greenhouse on the River" garden centre on River Road (County Road 32). On the TCT between Villiers and Blezard Lines JB & TB found FOY **Eyed Brown**.
- Jun 26 JB & TB checked the NE of the county and found FOY **Northern Broken-Dash**, **Northern Pearly-Eye**, and **Red Admiral** on Hubble Rd, **Banded Hairstreak** on FR68, and **Two-spotted Skipper**, and **Pink-edged Sulphur** on Sandy Lake Rd.
- Jun 27 JB found a FOY **Summer Azure** on the TCT between Cameron Line and Cty Rd 38.
- Jun 27 A Least Bittern was observed flying over the Sawyer Creek marsh on Douro 3rd Line by Donald Sutherland (e-birds).
- Jun 30 On the Galway-Cavendish Forest Access Rd JB saw FOY **Mulberry Wing** and **Atlantis Fritillary**, and on Salmon Lake Rd he saw an **Aphrodite Fritillary**.
- Jul 02 JB saw a FOY **Baltimore Checkerspot** on the TCT between Davis Fife and Settlers Lines.

- Jul 03 On West Kosh Rd JB found a FOY **Crossline Skipper**, and in the Trent Wildlife Sanctuary he saw a **Common Wood-Nymph**. A **Peregrine Falcon** was reported (e-birds) by Chris Risley and Scott Gibson eating a Rock Pigeon on the corner of the MNR building in downtown Peterborough.
- Jul 06 Leading a PFN group on a butterfly outing to Sandy Lake Rd JB and group added FOY **Dun Skipper**, **Acadian Hairstreak**, **Striped Hairstreak**, **Broad-winged Skipper**, **Delaware Skipper** and **Edwards Hairstreak**.
- Jul 08 On the TCT between Cameron Line and Cty Rd 38 JB found FOY **Little Glassywing**, **Peck's Skipper**, and **Eastern Tiger Swallowtail**.
- Jul 10 Both Matthew Garvin and Iain Rayner reported (e-birds) a **Peregrine Falcon** flying around Millenium Park in downtown Peterborough.
- Jul 12 JB and TB went butterflying in the NE of the County. Their route was Cty Rd 6, Cty Rd 44, Hubble Rd, Cty Rd 46 and Sandy Lake Rd. Butterflies were prolific, especially on Sandy Lake Rd. In total they saw 42 species, with amazing numbers of hairstreaks. The FOY butterflies were **Hickory Hairstreak**, **Bog Copper** and **Dion Skipper** on Sandy Lake Rd, and **Coral Hairstreak** on Cty Rd 46 south of Sandy Lake Rd. Hairstreak totals were 45 **Banded Hairstreaks**, 12 **Hickory Hairstreaks**, 23 **Edwards Hairstreaks**, 6 **Striped Hairstreaks**, 50 **Acadian Hairstreaks**, and 2 **Coral Hairstreaks**. In addition they saw a **Blanding's Turtle** and a **Snowshoe Hare**.
- Jul 20 The Petroglyphs Butterfly count was held, and the results are reported elsewhere in this edition. FOY butterflies for the county seen on the count were **Appalachian Brown** and **Questionmark** on the Forest Access rd off Jack Lake Rd, **Gray Hairstreak** on Cty Rd 46 north of Sandy Lake Rd, and **Columbine Duskywing** in the Petroglyphs PP.
- Jul 22 JB with Martin Parker and Dave Milsom saw a FOY **Orange Sulphur** on Scriven's RD.
- Jul 23 Visiting a cottage on Coon Lake just west of Burleigh Falls, Sue Paradis got a good look at a juvenile **Five-lined Skink**. She could hear **Eastern Whip-poor-wills** calling all night.
- Jul 27 TB reports that the **Caspian Terns** have returned to their usual post-breeding roost on the roof of the arena in Lakefield.
- Jul 29 By the hydro line crossing Jack Lake Rd TB & JB noticed a doe **White-tailed Deer** standing in the open. As they approached her she did not run away as she normally would but held her ground. As they approached closer she started to stamp her right foreleg and two young fawns suddenly stood up behind her. TB & JB decided to leave well alone and turned around and left them.
- Aug 02 **Double-crested Cormorants** were seen by TB, back on the Otonabee River below Lakefield.
- Aug 05 This morning at about 10 a.m., Michele Hemery observed a pair of **Great Egrets** briefly on the Otonabee River in Peterborough, just south of the zoo.
- Aug 08 TB and JB found the last species of butterfly to emerge each year - the **Leonard's Skipper** on Jack Lake Rd in the gravel pit. Julie Horton saw a **Great Egret** on Wallace Point Road, Bailieboro, just east of Cty Rd 28.
- Aug 09 A **Great Egret** was seen by TB feeding close to the road in the wetland on University Rd.
- Aug 10 Bill Crins reports that the **Great Egret** was still in the wetlands on University Rd, perched in a dead tree at the back. Other noteworthy birds present were two **Lesser Yellowlegs** and two **Solitary Sandpipers**.
- Aug 12 Matthew Garvin (e-birds) saw single **Peregrine Falcon** flying south of Harvey's, putting up lots of misc. birds.
- Aug 14 Martyn Obbard reports (e-birds) a **Barred Owl** calling from a tree in his back yard on Sumcot Drive in Galway- Harvey-Cavendish tsp.
- Aug 15 By the marsh at the end of Charlie Allen Rd JB & TB watched a **Snowshoe Hare** hop casually along the road, past the car, until it moved into woodland a hundred metres away.
- Aug 18 Don Sutherland reported (e-birds) an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** calling from the top of a leafless maple 100-200m E of Bartlett Rd along north hydro corridor. He also reported a **Yellow billed Cuckoo** calling repeatedly, giving 'couwp' call, to N of parking lot at the end of Whitfield Drive
- Aug 19 Don Sutherland reported (e-birds) a **Black-Bellied Plover** calling as it flew over the Trent Rotary trail. Iain Rayner reported (e-birds) a **Pectoral Sandpiper** on the wetlands on University Rd.
- Aug 22 **Fall Webworms** were found, by TB, to festooning the trees along a section of Elmhirst Rd in the south of the county. He also had four **Giant Swallowtails** on the day, two on Buddleia bushes in his garden in Lakefield, and two more in the south of the county. At the Briar Hill pond on Cty Rd 21 Bill Crins noted a juvenile **Baird's Sandpiper**, two **Least Sandpipers**, a **Lesser Yellowlegs**, a **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, a **Spotted Sandpiper** and two **Killdeer**.

- Aug 24 A **Black-crowned Night-Heron** was reported (e-birds) by Chris Risley by the Otonabee River in Meadowvale Park north of TASSS.
- Aug 26 Tonight just before dusk, a **Western Kingbird** caught insects off Dave Milsom's deck for 10 minutes before seeming to roost in the nearby woods. The bird was photographed from his home on Scollard Drive.



From Top to Bottom:
Hickory Hairstreak, Sandy Lake Road, July 12, 2013;
Pale Corydalis, Sandy Lake Road, May 25, 2013; **Fall Webworm**, Elmhurst Road, August 22, 2013; **Young Beavers**, TCT between Villiers and Blezard Lines, July 28, 2013. Photos by Tony Bigg.





PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS

www.peterboroughnature.org

membership application form

Memberships may be obtained by mailing completed form and cheque to

Peterborough Field Naturalists
PO Box 1532, Peterborough, ON K9J 7H7

CONTACT

Name (s):		Home Tel:	
		Work Tel:	
Address:		Receive Orchid by:	<input type="radio"/> snail mail <input type="radio"/> e-mail <input type="radio"/> both please
		Email(s):	

MEMBERSHIP TYPE & FEE SCHEDULE

Please make cheques payable to *Peterborough Field Naturalists*

1. Single Adult \$25 ☐ 2. Single Student \$15 ☐ 3. Single Child* (age 5-12) \$10 ☐

4. Family (couple or family with children*) \$30 ☐

*Please give the name(s) and age(s) of the children you wish to be enrolled in the PFN Junior Naturalists

Name	Age*	Name	Age*

MAIN INTERESTS

<input type="radio"/> Birds	<input type="radio"/> Butterflies/insects	<input type="radio"/> Botany (Wildflowers/trees/shrubs)
<input type="radio"/> Astronomy	<input type="radio"/> Aquatic Life	<input type="radio"/> Geology <input type="radio"/> Field Trips
<input type="radio"/> Hiking	<input type="radio"/> Conservation	<input type="radio"/> Other (specify)

I (name _____) am knowledgeable in the following areas _____ and would be prepared to

☐ lead an outdoor session ☐ give a presentation ☐ prepare an article for The Orchid

I am interested in the following:

☐ Joining the PFN Executive ☐ Sitting on research or conservation committees ☐ Working on field projects
☐ Helping with refreshments at meetings ☐ Please have a member of the executive call me

AGE GROUP

This information helps us to understand the needs of our members. If a family membership, please check for each adult

☐ Under 20 ☐ 20-29 ☐ 30-39 ☐ 40-49 ☐ 50-59 ☐ 60-69 ☐ 70-79 ☐ 80< over

DONATIONS

Membership fees cover the general operating costs of the club while other sources of revenue are needed to fund special projects such as ecological restoration. You can assist the club by making a donation to help further our work in such areas. The PFN is a registered charity and issues receipts for income tax purposes. All donations are gratefully received and any member of the executive will be happy to speak to you concerning the use of such funds.

LIABILITY WAIVER

In consideration of the Peterborough Field Naturalists (PFN) accepting this application, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever release and discharge the PFN, their officers, directors, servants and agents from any liability whatsoever arising from my participation in PFN activities, whether by reason of negligence of the PFN or its representatives, or otherwise. I affirm that I am in good health, capable of performing the exercise required for field trips or other activities in which I participate, and accept as my personal risk the hazards of such participation. As a member of the PFN and/or as a parent/guardian of a member under 18 years of age, I have read and understood the above, and accept its term on behalf of all of my underage children.

Signature: _____