

The

# Orchid



September 2014  
Volume 60, No. 6

[peterboroughnature.org](http://peterboroughnature.org)

## ***Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists***

Published nine times yearly, Publication Mail Agreement #4005104

Know • Appreciate • Conserve Nature in All its Forms



Cicada emerging from nymphal exoskeleton, August 23, Peterborough ~ Submitted by Paul Elliott

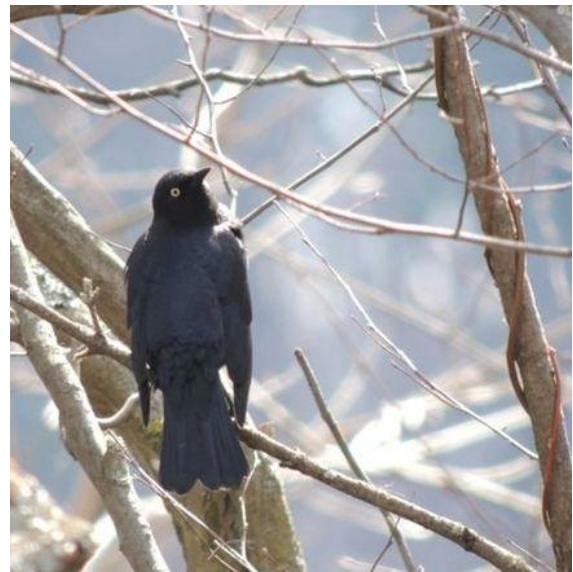
INSIDE: Petroglyphs Butterfly Count Results  
PFN Volunteer Opportunities  
What's Hatching at the Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre  
Be A Shutter'Bug'

## In this Issue:

Coming Events .....	3
Junior Naturalists .....	5
Other Events of Interest .....	5
PFN Directors Listing .....	7
Weather Reduced Butterfly Numbers...	8
Orchid Mailing Volunteer Needed.....	11
PFN Raffle Results .....	11
September Bird Happenings .....	11
For Reflection .....	13
BirdLife International Releases 2014 Red List Update .....	13
From the Archives .....	14
Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre Summer Update .....	15
Reminder: PFN's 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary .....	15
ESO Photo Contest .....	17
PFN Members Top Carden Challenge...	18
PFN Bird Feeder Project: Volunteer Opportunity .....	19



Juvenile Mourning Dove, May 25  
~ Submitted by Tony Bigg



Rusty Blackbird, April 27  
~ Submitted by Luke Berg

### **Welcome New Members!**

**Linda Chung**

**Sandy Lockwood**

**Robert Moreton and David Darling**

**Olena Oliinyk**

**Samantha Stephens**

## Coming Events

<p style="text-align: center;">Sundays September 7 until October 26  8:00am  Peterborough Zoo North Parking Lot</p>	<p><b>Sunday Morning Wildlife Outings</b></p> <p>Our autumnal season of Sunday morning wildlife outings will start on 7<sup>th</sup> September and run through to the last weekend of October.</p> <p>Unless otherwise stated (note 14<sup>th</sup> September), the outings will begin at Peterborough Zoo parking lot on Water Street at 8:00am. From the zoo participants will carpool to local sites for bird watching and other wildlife encounters. Try to bring binoculars and pay attention to the weather forecast when deciding what to wear.</p> <p>The walks are suitable for novices and experienced naturalists alike. We welcome newcomers!</p> <p>Outings will be led by the following:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>7<sup>th</sup> September</td><td>Drew Monkman</td></tr> <tr> <td>14<sup>th</sup> September</td><td>Paul Frost, Loggerhead Marsh (see separate entry)</td></tr> <tr> <td>21<sup>st</sup> September</td><td>Jerry Ball</td></tr> <tr> <td>28<sup>th</sup> September</td><td>Tony Bigg</td></tr> <tr> <td>5<sup>th</sup> October</td><td>Martin Parker</td></tr> <tr> <td>12<sup>th</sup> October</td><td>Walter Wehtje</td></tr> <tr> <td>19<sup>th</sup> October</td><td>TBC</td></tr> <tr> <td>26<sup>th</sup> October</td><td>Jerry Ball</td></tr> </table>	7 <sup>th</sup> September	Drew Monkman	14 <sup>th</sup> September	Paul Frost, Loggerhead Marsh (see separate entry)	21 <sup>st</sup> September	Jerry Ball	28 <sup>th</sup> September	Tony Bigg	5 <sup>th</sup> October	Martin Parker	12 <sup>th</sup> October	Walter Wehtje	19 <sup>th</sup> October	TBC	26 <sup>th</sup> October	Jerry Ball
7 <sup>th</sup> September	Drew Monkman																
14 <sup>th</sup> September	Paul Frost, Loggerhead Marsh (see separate entry)																
21 <sup>st</sup> September	Jerry Ball																
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Tony Bigg																
5 <sup>th</sup> October	Martin Parker																
12 <sup>th</sup> October	Walter Wehtje																
19 <sup>th</sup> October	TBC																
26 <sup>th</sup> October	Jerry Ball																
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday September 10  7:30 pm  Peterborough Public Library</p>	<p><b>Monthly Meeting: Wolves and Coyotes in Prince Edward County</b></p> <p>Guest Speaker Tyler Wheeldon will be discussing his wolf and coyote research in Prince Edward County.</p>																



## Coming Events continued

<p>Sunday September 14  8:00am  1419 Ireland Drive, Peterborough</p>	<p><b>Loggerhead Marsh</b></p> <p>Join Trent University's professor of aquatic sciences, Paul Frost, to explore a local wetland that is threatened by Peterborough's expansion.</p> <p>Loggerhead Marsh is a locally significant wetland that contains a significant area of cattail marsh, patches of forested wetland, and expanses of wet meadows. Its outflow stream flows through several forested areas and downstream into Jackson Creek. The marsh and its outflow stream are currently being encroached on by all sides by new urban development, which has included the building of residential landscapes and the installation of several stormwater ponds.</p> <p>There is plenty of street parking available on Ireland Drive.</p>
<p>Wednesday October 8  7:30 pm  Peterborough Public Library</p>	<p><b>Monthly Meeting: Dragonflies and Damselflies of Ontario</b></p> <p>Dragonflies and damselflies are beautiful and truly fascinating creatures! From the Ebony Jewelwing to the Stygian Shadowdragon, these insects are not only an important part of our ecosystem, they are also exciting to watch.</p> <p>Colin Jones, author of the "Field Guide to the Dragonflies and Damselflies of Algonquin Provincial Park and the Surrounding Area" will be presenting a talk, complete with photographs, on "The Dragonflies and Damselflies of Ontario" during which he will highlight their fascinating life cycle, their conservation, the habitats they are found in and how you can learn more about them yourselves by getting out there and watching them first-hand. Colin will have copies available for purchase of both the Algonquin field guide and the new "ROM Field Guide to Butterflies of Ontario".</p>

Red-bellied Snake,  
Villiers/Bleazard  
Line, May 7  
~ Submitted by  
Tony Bigg



## Coming Events continued

<p>Wednesday November 12</p> <p>7:30 pm</p> <p>Peterborough Public Library</p>	<p><b>Monthly Meeting</b></p> <p>Guest Speaker will be Dr. Chris Kyle of Trent University and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources DNA Profiling and Forensic Centre.</p>
<p>Sunday November 30</p> <p>1:00pm</p> <p>Meet at Tim Horton's at the Sobey's/ Canadian Tire Plaza, Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough</p>	<p><b>Wave Riders of Rice Lake</b></p> <p>This is becoming a tradition! Join Martin Parker on a trip along the north shore of Rice Lake to look for some of the later migrating waterfowl and other birds which are migrating through. We will look for rafts of diving ducks such as Greater Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead and others. Bring binoculars, a telescope if you have one, and clothes suitable for the weather forecast for the day. The trip will last until late afternoon and Martin promises that CFL fans will be home in time for the Grey Cup final!</p>

## PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12)

Welcome back to the first outing of the new season! We will check out the late summer wetland action, so come ready to dip a net. Bring your rubber boots, and a water bottle and hat if the temperature is warm. Date, time and location will be posted on the PFN website in early September. See you soon! ~Neil

## Other Events of Interest

<p>Saturday September 13</p> <p>Thickson's Woods</p>	<p><b>Birds, Beavers and Butterflies Nature Festival at Thickson's Woods</b></p> <p>Mark your calendars to attend this fall festival. For details, please visit <a href="http://www.thicksonswoods.com">www.thicksonswoods.com</a> , or phone 905-725-2116. You can also email <a href="mailto:nature@thicksonswoods.com">nature@thicksonswoods.com</a> .</p>
--	---

## Other Events of Interest cont'd

<p>Sunday September 21</p> <p>Port Whitby Marina</p>	<p><b>Durham Festival of Birds</b></p> <p>Durham Regional Field Naturalists is hosting this day-long event at the Port Whitby Marina, 310 Watson Street in Whitby. For more details, visit <a href="http://www.drfn.ca">www.drfn.ca</a>.</p>
<p>Tuesday, September 30 (8:00 pm) to Friday, October 3 (4:00 pm) <b>OR</b> Tuesday October 7 to Friday October 10 (same times)</p> <p>Queen's University Biological Station, north of Kingston</p>	<p><b>Fabulous Fall Fungi</b></p> <p>Now in its fifth year, this popular 3-day workshop introduces participants to the astounding diversity of mushrooms and other fungi growing in Southern Ontario. Each day consists of collecting fresh specimens, working in the classroom to identify our finds, and insightful discussions about fungal ecology, natural history, uses, and etymology. You can also expect one or more evening presentations, plus an opportunity to see a bioluminescent mushroom in action. If edibles are found, our chef is always amenable to cooking up samples for us to try. Suitable for all levels, this workshop is a wonderful opportunity to become better acquainted with the mysterious world of fungi.</p> <p>Cost: \$350 (all inclusive), includes 3 nights accommodation, all meals, instruction, and use of classroom space. Several microscopes will also be on hand. Small class size (max 12 students). Register early to avoid disappointment as each year there is a waiting list. Note: Due to popular demand, a second workshop has been added this year. Location: Queen's University Biological Station. Details: <a href="http://www.queensu.ca/qubs">www.queensu.ca/qubs</a>.</p>
<p>Sunday October 12 10:00am to 12:00pm Ashburnham Road, Peterborough</p>	<p><b>GreenUP Ecology Park Autumn "Little Tree" Sale</b></p> <p>Visit the Ecology Park and browse their trees for sale, before the park closes for the season on October 30<sup>th</sup>.</p>

## Fabulous Fall Fungi – 2014



### FABULOUS FALL FUNGI WORKSHOPS

Instructor: Richard Aaron

Queen's University Biological Station

Workshop 1 - September 30 to October 3; Workshop 2 - October 7 to 10

- now in its 5th year – suitable for all levels from beginner to advanced
- wide variety of hands-on activities
- see up to 150 species
- experience a glow-in-the-dark mushroom
- learn about edible and medicinal species
- small class size – limited to 12 participants per workshop
- \$350 workshop fee covers: 3 nights accommodation, 8 meals & all instruction

For further details and to register, go to: [www.queensu.ca/qubs](http://www.queensu.ca/qubs)

### PFN Officers and Directors

President	Martin Parker	mparker19@cogeco.ca	745-4750
Vice President	Gina Varrin	gina.varrin@gmail.com	761-7787
Secretary	Kelly Boadway	kjboadway@gmail.com	775-0756
Treasurer	Don Pettypiece	donem.pettypiece@bell.net	750-1145
Membership	Jim Young	jbyoung559@gmail.com	760-9397
Program (indoor)	Phil Shaw	pshaw78@hotmail.com	874-1688
Program (outdoor)	Paul Elliott	paulelliott@trentu.ca	740-0501
Fisheries Council	Kim Zippel	kzippel@cogeco.ca	740-0587
Webmaster	Chris Gooderham	webmaster@peterboroughnature.org	740-2081
FON Rep	Ted Vale	tedandmarion@sympatico.ca	741-3641
Special Projects	Lynn Smith	smithfam@nexicom.net	944-5599

### Other Volunteers

Ecology Park Feeders	Sean Smith & Don Finigan	745-4750
Orchid Diary	Tony Bigg	652-7541
Orchid Mailout	Michelle and Emily Young	
Orchid Editor	Marla Williams	874-5653
Jr. Naturalists	Neil Fortin	292-6185
Miller Creek Management Area	Jim Cashmore & Jim Young	
Ad-hoc on Lily Lake Planning	Jim Cashmore, Jim Young, Lynn Smith, Martin Parker	
Local Planning Committees	Jim Cashmore	





## ORCHID SUBMISSIONS WANTED!

Deadline for submissions for the October 2014 issue is **Friday, September 19**

Send submissions to Marla Williams via email: [orchid@peterboroughnature.org](mailto:orchid@peterboroughnature.org)  
or post mail to: PFN, PO Box 1532, Peterborough ON K9J 7H7



Above: Six-spotted Tiger Beetle, May 7  
Trans Canada Trail at Baseline/David Fife Line  
~ Submitted by Tony Bigg



Right: Virginia Rail, July 21  
Fairbairn Road north of Peterborough  
~ Submitted by Emily Pettypiece

## Weather Reduced Butterfly Numbers

Submitted by Jerry Ball and Martin Parker

The long-term impact of the weather affected this year's 17th Annual Petroglyphs Butterfly Count, which was held on Saturday, July 19th. The longer, colder and snowy winter than what we have experienced over the past few decades, and the resulting wet spring, reduced the number of butterfly eggs which survived. According to count compiler, Jerry Ball, these factors reduced the number of adults emerging.

The 19 participants in this year's count found a total of 55 species of butterflies involving 2,718 individuals. In addition 4 American Lady caterpillars were found. Last year 54 species consisting of 5,038 individuals were found. The impact of the long-term weather was most noticeable on the Dun Skipper. Last year 2,760 were recorded while this year only 863 were located. Even with



the large drop in number the count will still have more Dun Skippers than any other butterfly count in North America.

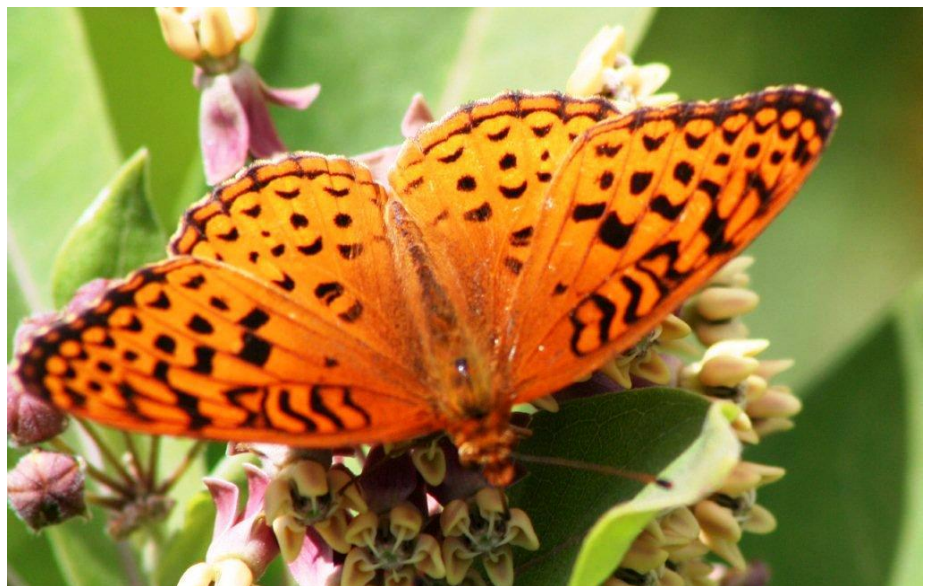
The cooler nights and mornings result in the butterflies becoming less active until the temperatures warm up during the day. Temperatures have to be above 20 degrees before they become active and are easily observed flying around. Most of the participants noted that butterflies this year did not become active until after 11:00 am, whereas they were active much earlier in the day last year.

This was especially noticeable with the skippers, a group of small mostly orange and/or brown butterflies who stay hidden in the vegetation until the day warms up. As the temperatures rose they became more visible, feeding off the nectar-rich flowers.

Last year the count participants only found 7 Monarch butterflies. This year the number of Monarchs rebounded to 62 individuals. There has been extensive coverage on the plight of this migratory butterfly which departs Ontario in late August and September, overwinters in Mexico, and then future generations return in late May and early June the following year. The caterpillars of this butterfly only feed on various species of milkweed plants. The adults feed on nectar from a variety of flowering plants.

Jerry Ball acknowledged the volunteer counters who came from the Peterborough area, Durham Region, Haliburton and Toronto to participate in the count. Their knowledge of butterflies resulted in another successful count being held this year.

Aphrodite Fritillary, July 16  
Sandy Lake Road  
~ Submitted by Martin Parker



Again this year a total of seven species of hairstreaks were located. Many of the species of hairstreaks in Canada have restricted ranges. As a family their greatest diversity is in the tropics.

The Edwards' Hairstreak (2 were found) only occurs in an areas with lots of oak trees, as the caterpillars feed on oaks. The Hickory Hairstreak (2 were found) needs deciduous woodlands with Bitternut Hickory, Butternut, Red Oaks and White Ash. The caterpillar feeds on these trees. Our species are mostly dark brown on the upper surface with a touch of blue iridescence, resembling the tropical species. The species found on the count have hair-like tails on the hind wing. The underside of the wing has wavy or broken lines on a lightly-coloured surface.

The count covers an area contained within a 24-kilometre circle, centered on Petroglyphs Provincial Park and extends from Stoney Lake north to Apsley and Sandy Lake Road, and from Highway 28 on the west and County Road 46 on the east.

Sunny locations with flowers containing lots of nectar such as Swamp Milkweed, Common Milkweed, and Viper's Bugloss were the most productive locations for butterflies. A garden with Lavender was swarming with butterflies and other wild pollinators.



Appalachian Brown, July 9, Jack Lake Road  
~ Submitted by Dave Milsom

### **Total Count Results:**

Black Swallowtail 1, Eastern Tiger Swallowtail 3, Canadian Tiger Swallowtail 3, Mustard White 2, Cabbage White 20, Clouded Sulphur 87, Orange Sulphur 1, Pink-edged Sulphur 15, Harvester 1, Bog Copper 1, Acadian Hairstreak 23, Coral Hairstreak 33, Banded Hairstreak 22, Hickory Hairstreak 2, Edwards' Hairstreak 2, Striped Hairstreak 29, Gray Hairstreak 3, Eastern Tailed Blue 4, Summer Azure 49. Great Spangled Fritillary 61, Aphrodite Fritillary 78, Atlantis Fritillary 3, Pearl Crescent 31, Northern Crescent 301, Eastern Comma 4, Gray Comma 8, Mourning Cloak 7, American Lady 14, Common Buckeye 1, Red Admiral 2, White Admiral 38, Northern Pearly-eye 39, Eyed Brown 78, Appalachian Brown 2, Little Wood-Satyr 7, Common Ringlet 2, Common Wood-Nymph 28, Monarch 62, Silver-spotted Skipper 2, Columbine Duskywing 43, Delaware Skipper 70, Least Skipper 23, European Skipper 56, Peck's Skipper 32, Tawny-edged Skipper 9, Crossline Skipper 5, Long Dash 12, Northern Broken-dash 10, Little Glassywing 12, Hobomok Skipper 1, Mulberry Wing 149, Broad-winged Skipper 260, Dion Skipper 12, Two-spotted Skipper 10, Dun Skipper 863, unidentified white species 1, hairstreak species 8, blue species 1, fritillary species 6, crescent species 86, anglewing species 1, and 4 American Lady caterpillars.

---

## Orchid Mailing Volunteer Needed!

A volunteer(s) is needed to stuff and address envelopes, and mail the Orchid newsletter.

Duties include:

- Nine newsletters each year, mailed near the end of the month
- Pick up the printed Orchids from the Trent University Print Shop
- Stuff and seal about 100 Orchid envelopes
- Apply pre-printed address labels, maintaining order of sorting by postal code
- Deliver the stuffed and sorted envelopes to the post office depot on Rye Street.

This is a good family activity, and your help will be greatly appreciated!

For details please contact Jim Young at 705-760-9397 or at [jbyoung559@gmail.com](mailto:jbyoung559@gmail.com).

Many thanks to Michelle and Emily Young who, as recently as the September issue, have generously donated their time and energy to the Orchid mailout!

---

## PFN Raffle Results

Grand Prize (received an original painting by artist Kelly Dodge):  
Milda Bax

Runners-up (received a copy of PFN's excellent book "Nature in the Kawarthas"):  
Stephanie Melles  
Jordan Ahee  
Paul Elliott

**Congratulations to all of the winners, and thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets to support the PFN's initiatives.**

---

## September Bird Happenings

**Submitted by June Hitchcox, Courtesy of the *Apsley Voice***

Where did the summer go? Down south, of course, where all those migrating birds are heading. About now, the highest numbers of songbirds are on the move - warblers, vireos, swallows, flycatchers, thrushes and many more.



By mid-month, look for White-throated and White-crowned Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos. Juncos seem to become quite tame while they feed on seeds, sunflower seeds especially, that you have scattered on the ground but really they are concentrating on the seeds which will give them the energy that they will need to continue their journey. We have had juncos hop right up to our shoes, eating seeds, as we stand absolutely still.

Toward the end of September, listen for the lovely sound of the wings of the Canada Geese from the far north as they fly over, high up in the sky in V-formation. They are a bit smaller than the giant Canada Geese we have in our areas.

Turkey Vultures, wings catching the wind so that they don't have to expend their energy on flapping, glide by silently. Days when the wind is from the northwest are the best days to see the migrating birds – it pushes them along, making it easier to fly and uses up less of their valuable energy.

On other topics:

1. Today (August) we saw an adult Red-necked Grebe watching over 4 young at the pond at Bronte Marina. Around the corner there appeared to be 2 young with parents, so they have done well this year.
2. We leave our hummingbird feeders filled (no red food colouring) into November, after witnessing one hummingbird that month, a few years ago, taking greedy drinks to give it a burst of energy as quickly as possible. A November hummingbird is more likely to be one of the western species that flew east instead of south, rather than the summer resident Ruby-throated Hummingbird.
3. Young birds and older ones too, in unfamiliar surroundings frequently fly into windows; hundreds are killed every year. By putting screws in the 4 outside corners of a window and stretching fine bird netting over the outside of the window, hooking it in place on the screws, this will stop those collisions. It is a wonderful feeling to watch the birds putting on their brakes. Some do hit but softly and they are alright. We have not had a fatality since installing the netting. The bird netting is so fine that you will have no trouble seeing out and would hardly know that it is there.

Let's hear your birding news. Happy birding!

## For reflection...

Best of any song  
is bird song  
in the quiet, but first  
you must have the quiet.

~ Wendell Berry (Shared by Bryan Whitfield)

I hope you love birds, too.  
It is economical.  
It saves going to heaven.

~ Emily Dickinson (Shared by Bryan Whitfield)



Northern Waterthrush, May 3  
Trent University Nature Areas  
~ Submitted by Luke Berg

## BirdLife International Releases 2014 Red List Update

### Courtesy of Bird Studies Canada

24 July: The conservation status of 361 newly-recognized bird species has been assessed for the first time by BirdLife International as part of the 2014 Red List update for birds. This year's Red List update recognizes **10,425** bird species in total, with a new high of 213 bird species classified as Critically Endangered (the highest category of extinction risk). For details of species assessments, key habitats requiring immediate conservation attention, and more, please visit <http://www.birdlife.org/worldwide/news/Red-List-for-birds-2014>. One tenth of bird species flies under the conservation radar on the BirdLife website.

IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/>) assesses the risk of extinction of a species should no conservation action be taken, and is the world's most comprehensive information source on the global conservation status of plant and animal species. BirdLife International is the Red List Authority for birds for the IUCN Red List. The BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Programme (<http://www.birdlife.org/worldwide/programmes/preventing-extinctions>) is counteracting an increasingly diverse array of threats to birds by delivering conservation action, underpinned by science, where it is most needed.

## From the Archives – The Fraser Estate and the PFN

Submitted by Martin Parker

The June issue of 'The Orchid' contained an article on the 20th anniversary of the Peterborough Field Naturalists. It was held at the Estate of Gordon K. Fraser at Burleigh Falls.

The May 2014 issue of the *Apsley Voice* contained an article of the 'Wetlands of the Fraser Estate' by Heather Brooks-Hill. The article makes the following comments about the property: "In the 'Development of Burleigh Bay' article (Apsley Voice April, 2014) the Fraser Property on Burleigh Bay was described as 'a Stony Lake Gem'."

"Why? This land is described as a 'Gem' for many reasons; in particular because of the vast wetlands on the property called the Fraser Wetland Complex and the extensive Fairy Lake Island Wetlands bordering the eastern end of the Fraser Property and beyond. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources has designated both of these wetlands as provincially significant."

PFN members may be interested in the Friends of the Fraser Wetlands (FFW) infomercials. They are "hot off the press", so to speak, with more to come. Visit [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZuNZgzMLH4OsuQNSk\\_tU6w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZuNZgzMLH4OsuQNSk_tU6w).

It is interesting that the Peterborough Nature Club (now the Peterborough Field Naturalists) visited this site to celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Who was Gordon K. Fraser? The driveway to the property was marked for many decades, indicating the entrance to the Gordon K. Fraser estate.

According to Wikipedia, Gordon Knapman Fraser was a National Government and Progressive Conservative member of the House of Commons representing Peterborough riding. He was first elected representing the Peterborough West riding in 1940. The Progressive Conservative party operated under the National Government banner at that time.

Fraser was born in Hamilton on March 6, 1891. He was re-elected several times, representing the riding of Peterborough West which became the riding of Peterborough. In the 1945 election Fraser's party became the Progressive Conservative Party. Fraser sat in the House of Commons until his death in Ottawa on May 26, 1960, when he collapsed at a book store.

His death occurred shortly after he and his wife hosted the 20th anniversary celebrations at their property at Burleigh Falls on May 14, 1960.

A review of the minutes of the founding meeting documents that Mrs. Gordon Fraser was elected as the first Vice-President of the Peterborough Field Naturalists.

**The Orchid, Volume 60, Number 6, September 2014**



## Reminder: PFN's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The PFN was founded on May 18, 1949. In order to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our founding, Camp Kawartha has been booked for Monday May 18, 2015 for a special club event. Planning is underway and further details will be available soon. Reserve this date to celebrate the history and the accomplishments of the Peterborough Field Naturalists, originally called the Peterborough Nature Club!

## Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre: Summer Update

Submitted by Lindsay Maxim, KTTC Executive Coordinator

Report Date: August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre has once again experienced an increase in the number of turtles treated this season. We have admitted 338 injured turtles from across the province thus far. Of that total, 303 were adults with 55% being female and 45% male. The most common cause of injury was being struck by a vehicle on the road. These numbers represent great success in conserving the species, as the majority of these cases are successfully rehabilitated.

We have experienced an increase of approximately 25% in the number of eggs incubated at our facility, which represents a total of over 1450 eggs. All hatchlings will be returned back to the wetland from which the mother came, in hopes that they will contribute to the future of that population. We were very excited to welcome the first clutch to hatch of the season on August 2<sup>nd</sup> - we will most definitely have our hands full over the coming months.

Top: Blanding's turtle with a fractured shell from a vehicle collision and (middle) after repair.

Bottom: Dr. Sue Carstairs performs surgery with the assistance of an intern.



Blanding's turtles are listed as a "threatened" species in Ontario. As an extension of our hatchling program, we are radio tracking a large group of released headstarted Blanding's turtles, along with a group of 'control' wild Blanding's, to ensure behaviour and survival of our released turtles are normal. We followed turtles at 5 different field sites across Ontario. This is adding valuable data to establish whether headstarting is a viable conservation strategy for Ontario's turtles. We have had an accomplished field season; all except one of the 49 turtle that were tracked hibernated successfully. Captive raised turtles are using similar habitat when compared to wild turtles of the same age class, and appear to be feeding successfully (maintaining or gaining weight). We are actively monitoring the roadways adjacent to study locations to identify areas to install ecopassages.

We rely on the support of individuals like you to continue this valuable work conserving Ontario's turtles. Please get in touch if you are interested in becoming a member, making a donation, or receiving our newsletter! Contact: [info@kawarthaturtle.org](mailto:info@kawarthaturtle.org), 705-741-5000.



Top left: Clutches of eggs incubating in containers. Bottom left: Blanding's turtle eggs incubating in vermiculite collected from an injured female treated at KTTC.

Top right: Volunteer cleaning hatchling turtle enclosures and maintaining incubators. Bottom right: Blanding's turtle emerging from the egg.



## Enter the Entomological Society of Ontario's Photo Contest

The Entomological Society of Ontario (ESO) welcomes you to submit your photos of insects and other arthropods for competition in the annual "ESO Bug Eye" photo contest (<http://www.entsocont.ca/bug-eye-photo-contest.html>), open to ESO members and all Ontario residents, no entry fee. Winners to be announced during the ESO Annual General Meeting, held from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> at the University of Toronto. Please visit the ESO website for more information.

Submit your photos to: [esophotos@gmail.com](mailto:esophotos@gmail.com)

Submission deadline is September 14<sup>th</sup>, and winners will be announced on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

List of Prizes:

Best photo \$50

Best photo of an Ontario insect \$50

Best photo by a junior entomologist under 13 (1st \$25, 2nd \$20, 3rd \$10)

People's Choice award \$50

Happy shutter"bugging"!

## PFN Awards at Peterborough Regional Science Fair

The Peterborough Field Naturalists makes an annual contribution to the Peterborough Regional Science Fair. Four deserving projects in the elementary category are awarded the PFN Award, which comes with a cash prize. The following replies were received from two of this year's winners:

'Thank you very much for your prize donation. That was very kind of you to donate it. Thanks again. Mikayla S.'

'Thank you for your kind gift; a twenty-five dollar cheque. I really appreciate this generous gift. Yours truly, Katherine P.'

A number of PFN members also attend the annual Peterborough Regional Science Fair as judges, and their involvement is appreciated by the organizing committee for the fair.

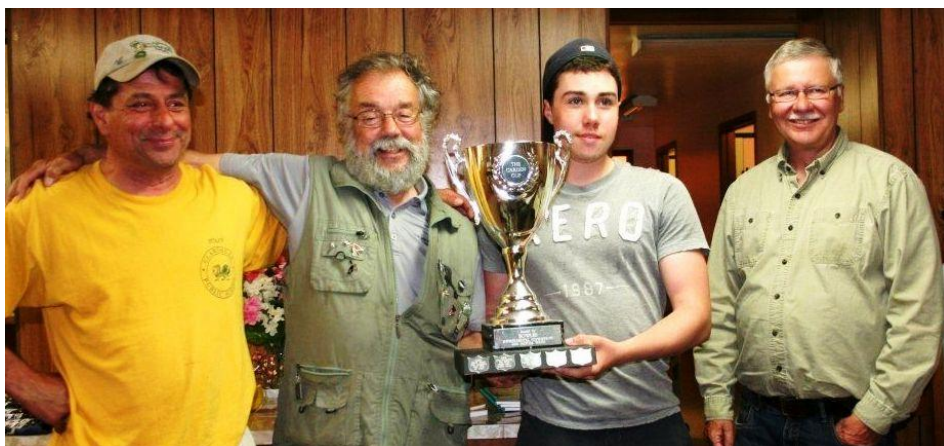


## **PFN Members Top Carden Challenge**

**Submitted by Martin Parker**

Four members and one former member of the Peterborough Field Naturalists participated in the 9th Annual Carden Challenge this year.

The team known as the 'Wylie Road Runners' consisting of Martin Parker, Matthew Tobey and Sean Smith of Peterborough, and Stephen O'Donnell of Sundridge, competed for the Carden Cup. This Cup is awarded to the competitive birding team who records the most species between 6:00 pm on Friday May 30 and 6:00 pm on Saturday, May 31. Within this 24-hour period the Wylie Road Runners observed a total of 134 species of birds, the most of the three other competitive teams, thus winning the Carden Cup.



Winners of the 2014 Carden Cup, left to right:  
Stephen O'Donnell  
Martin Parker  
Matthew Tobey  
Steve Hounsell (Presenter)

Kathy Parker of Peterborough, along with Susan Blayney of Fenelon Falls, Chris Evans of Orillia and Alex Mills of Barrie, comprised the team renamed the 'Snakes on the Plain' to compete for the Biodiversity Trophy. This award is presented to the team which records the highest total of species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies in the same 24-hour period as the birding challenge.

The Snakes on the Plain team recorded 117 bird species, 9 mammals, 6 reptiles, 7 amphibians, 14 butterflies and 21 dragonflies and damselflies. This is the second year of the Biodiversity Trophy. The Snakes on the Plain team also won last year, although the team was then known as the 'Carden Catbirds'.

Winners of the 2014  
Biodiversity Trophy, left to  
right:  
Kathy Parker  
Alex Mills  
Chris Evans  
Susan Blayney  
Steve Hounsell, Presenter



Congratulations to these talented members of the Peterborough Field Naturalists!

## PFN Bird Feeder Project – Volunteer Opportunities

Since 1990 the Peterborough Field Naturalists have operated three bird feeders during the winter months at Ecology Park, beside Beavermead Park. This is a PFN contribution to the environmental awareness programmes at Ecology Park. These feeders provide the opportunity for park visitors to view some of our common winter birds. They also provide food for some of our wintering woodland birds.

For the past three years the feeders have been maintained from November to April by Don Finigan and Sean Smith. Don and Sean fill the feeders on a weekly basis from a stock maintained at the site. They also arrange for the purchase of feed to replenish the stock. The stock is maintained in a closed bin at Ecology Park. The Ecology Park has purchased a new bin to replace the existing wooden bin.

A volunteer from the Peterborough Rotary Club has agreed to construct two new feeders to replace the existing feeders which are showing signs of age.

Here are ways that PFN club members can participate:

1. The donation of a small sled or toboggan would be appreciated. This would aid the volunteers in hauling the feed from the bins to the feeders during times of deeper snow.
2. Additional volunteers are needed to maintain the feeders and share the workload. The schedule last winter resulted in the feeders being visited two or three times monthly to restock

the food. Two additional volunteers would be much appreciated. These volunteers would visit the site on a pre-determined schedule.

If you have a sled which you are prepared to donate to this project, or wish to become a feeder filler, please contact Don Finigan at 705-741-4493.



## The Orchid Diary



**Compiled by Tony Bigg 705-652-7541 [tanddbigg@sympatico.ca](mailto:tanddbigg@sympatico.ca)**

Unfortunately the Orchid Diary was unavailable at the time of publication. Please stay tuned for the October issue of the Orchid, which will include highlights of the summer sightings. In the meantime, please report your sightings to Tony Bigg via his contact information above.



Great Blue Heron and Crayfish, August 24, Warsaw Caves at Indian River  
~ Submitted by Marla Williams





# PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS

[www.peterboroughnature.org](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_