

The Orchid

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Know • Appreciate • Conserve Nature in All its Forms



Northern Parula Warbler, Trent University, September 6th ~ Submitted by Dave Milsom

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Help Save Boyd Island!
A Plethora of PFN Trip Reports
2016 North American Envirothon Coming to Peterborough
New 'Natural Playscapes' at the Camp Kawartha Environment Centre

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Welcome New Members!

Nancy Misner

John & Mary Martin

Alan Ablett




Western Sandpiper, Presqu'île Provincial Park,
September 5th
~ Submitted by Dave Milsom



Chicken of the Woods, Presqu'île Provincial Park,
August 29th
~ Submitted by Martin Parker

Coming Events

<p style="text-align: center;">Sundays to Sunday, October 25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:00 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">North Parking Lot Peterborough Zoo Water Street</p>	<p>Sunday Morning Wildlife Outings</p> <p>Our autumnal season of Sunday morning wildlife outings will start on 6th September and run through to the last weekend of October.</p> <p>Unless otherwise stated, the outings will begin at Peterborough Zoo parking lot on Water Street at 8:00 am. From the zoo participants will carpool to local sites for bird watching and other wildlife encounters. Please 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 style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>4th October</td><td>Jerry Ball</td></tr> <tr> <td>11th October</td><td>Dave Milsom</td></tr> <tr> <td>18th October</td><td>Drew Monkman</td></tr> <tr> <td>25th October</td><td>Jerry Ball</td></tr> </table>	4 th October	Jerry Ball	11 th October	Dave Milsom	18 th October	Drew Monkman	25 th October	Jerry Ball
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18 th October	Drew Monkman								
25 th October	Jerry Ball								
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, October 14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:30 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Peterborough Public Library</p>	<p>Weird and Wonderful Fungi</p> <p>Jan Thornhill is a member of the Toronto Mycological Society, who admits to being obsessed with fungi. She will be sharing her knowledge of the weird and wonderful wild mushrooms of our region at our October 14th meeting. Jan is a renowned writer and illustrator of nature- and science-related children's books. She lives in Havelock.</p> <p>Members are welcome to bring fungi samples for Jan to identify.</p> <p>You can read her blog at: http://weirdandwonderfulwildmushrooms.blogspot.ca</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  <p>Fly Agaric (<i>Amanita muscaria</i>), Minden Hills, July 2013 ~ Submitted by Martin Parker</p> </div>								
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday November 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:00 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Country Style Restaurant Junction of Old Keene Road and Highway 7</p>	<p>Birding at Presqu'ile Provincial Park</p> <p>Jerry Ball will lead 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 8:00 am at the Country Style at the junction of Old Keene Road and Highway 7, east of Peterborough. We will likely carpool, so bring a contribution for gas and the entry fee to the park.</p>								

Coming Events continued

<p>Note date change from the usual Wednesday monthly meeting: Tuesday, November 10</p> <p>7:30 pm</p> <p>Peterborough Public Library</p>	<p>Monthly Meeting: An Ecotour of North-Central India</p> <p>Bill Crins will share his travel experiences from India. The area covered will centre on natural areas within a day or two's drive of New Delhi, including Keoladeo, Ranthambore, and Corbett National Parks, and the Nainital area in the Himalayan foothills. Come prepared for some cultural content, such as the Taj Mahal, as well as lots of beautiful images of birds, mammals, herptiles, plants and insects.</p>
<p>Sunday, November 29</p> <p>1:00 pm</p> <p>Tim Horton's at Canadian Tire/Sobey's Plaza Lansdowne Street West</p>	<p>Wave Riders of Rice Lake</p> <p>Join Martin Parker and Luke Berg for this traditional Grey Cup afternoon exploration of sites along the northwestern shore of Rice Lake. We will be looking for the later migrating ducks and other birds. Highlights will be the rafts of ducks riding the waves of Rice Lake and the scenic vistas overlooking the lake. Bring binoculars, telescope if you have one, and clothes suitable for the weather forecast for the day.</p> <p>The trip will last until the late afternoon and CFL fans will be home in time for the Grey Cup game.</p>
<p>Saturday December 5</p> <p>7:00 am</p> <p>Tim Horton's at Canadian Tire/Sobey's Plaza Lansdowne Street West</p>	<p>World's Greatest Concentration of Gulls</p> <p>This day trip will be a birding outing to the Niagara River, a designated Important Birding Area due to the variety and number of gulls which utilize the river in the late fall. More species can be observed in a day than anywhere else in the world. There will be thousands of gulls consisting of ten or more species. Besides the gulls there will be other waterbirds, and southern specialties such as Tufted Titmouse. The leaders for this outing will be Martin Parker and Matthew Tobey.</p> <p>The trip will start from Peterborough with a secondary gathering location at the Adam Beck Generating Station Lookout at Queenston. If you are planning to meet the group at Queenston please advise Martin (705-745-4750) in advance.</p> <p>Bring a packed lunch, binoculars, and telescope if you have one. A camera may be handy as well. Wear clothes suitable for the weather forecast for the Niagara River area for the day of this excursion. This outing will end in the Niagara Region in the late afternoon.</p>

PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12)

The PFN Juniors are invited to the Warsaw Caves Conservation Area to help plant a pollinator garden on Sunday, October 18th at 2 pm. All are welcome at this free event. Otonabee Conservation will be supplying gloves, shovels and spades. Please bring a water bottle/snack, and clothes suitable for the weather and getting dirty. If you have questions, or wish to join the PFN Juniors email distribution list, please contact Lara Griffin at 705-749-3639. Note: If the event needs to be rescheduled due to inclement weather, an email will go out to those people on the list.

Other Events of Interest

<p>GreenUP Ecology Park Ashburnham Road, Peterborough</p>	<p>2015 GreenUP Ecology Park Programs and Events</p> <p>October 18th Autumn Little Tree Sale October 29th Last day at Ecology Park</p> <p>* Visit www.greenup.on.ca or email workshops @ greenup.on.ca. * Ecology Park plant catalogue is online; see 'Ecology Park/Garden Market'.</p> <p>Bulk Sales & Costs: \$2/bucket leaf compost \$3/bucket cedar mulch \$7 straw bale</p> <p>Bring your own buckets. Only available during garden market hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00 to 7:00 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from 10:00 to 4:00 pm, to October 29th.</p>
<p>Fourth Wednesday of each month</p> <p>7:30 pm</p> <p>Peterborough Public Library</p>	<p>Peterborough Horticultural Society Monthly Meetings</p> <p>The Peterborough Horticultural Society meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Meetings take place at the Peterborough Public Library, 345 Aylmer Street North. Doors open at 7:00 pm for socializing and a 7:30 pm start. All are welcome and you don't have to be an experienced gardener. Annual membership is \$20 individual, \$25 family. Visit www.peterboroughgardens.ca.</p>
<p>Tuesday October 6 (8:00 pm) to Friday October 9 (4:00 pm) Tuesday</p>	<p>Fabulous Fall Fungi Workshop</p> <p>Now in its 6th year, this popular 3-day workshop explores the impressive diversity of mushrooms and other fungi found in Southern Ontario. Suitable for all levels from beginner to advanced. Activities include daily field trips to collect specimens, working in the classroom to identify our finds, and discussions on fungal ecology, natural history, and uses. There will also be one or more evening presentations, plus the opportunity to see a bioluminescent mushroom in action. If we find any edibles our cook is always amenable to cooking up samples for us to try. Participants will have access to a class set of field guides, 10x loupes, and an extensive collection of reference books.</p> <p>Cost includes 3 nights' accommodation, all meals, instruction, printed materials, and use of classroom. Small class size (max 12 students). Register early to avoid disappointment as each year there are waiting lists. Location: Queen's University Biological Station. Details: www.queensu.ca/qubs.</p>

Other Events of Interest continued

Friday October 23	Natural Playscapes Ribbon Cutting and Fall Celebration
3:30 to 5:30 pm	The NEW Natural Playscapes is being unveiled at the Camp Kawartha Environment Centre on October 23 rd . The PFN made a financial contribution to this project.
Camp Kawartha Environment Centre	The celebration includes a ribbon cutting ceremony, games, music, nature crafts, apple cider, nature hike, and of course time for playing on the new Playscapes! Everyone is welcome to visit and enjoy this great new feature.
2505 Pioneer Road, Peterborough	Please RSVP via the Camp Kawartha website at http://campkawartha.ca/contact-us/ .

PFN Officers and Directors				Other Volunteers		
President	Lynn Smith	smithfam@nexicom.net	944-5599	Ecology Park Feeders	JB Jaboor & Don Finigan	745-4750
Vice President, Fisheries Council	Kim Zippel	kimzippel@nexicom.net	740-0587	Orchid Diary	Martin Parker	745-4750
Secretary, Archives	Martin Parker	mparker19@cogeco.ca	745-4750	Orchid Mailout	Mary Thomas	
Treasurer	Don Pettypiece	don.pettypiece@gmail.com	750-1145	Orchid Editor	Marla Williams	874-5653
Membership	Jim Young	jbyoung559@gmail.com	760-9397	Jr. Naturalists	Lara Griffin	749-3639
Program (indoor), Stewardship Council, Fisheries Council	Phil Shaw	pshaw78@hotmail.com	874-1688	Miller Creek Management Area	Jim Cashmore & Jim Young	
Program (indoor)	Marie Duchesneau	Duchesneau13@hotmail.com	874-5739	Municipal Planning Committee	Jim Cashmore, Jim Young, Lynn Smith, Martin Parker, Ted Vale	
Program (outdoor)	Paul Elliott	pauelliott@trentu.ca	740-0501			
Special Projects	Rene Gareau	rene.gareau@sympatico.ca	741-4560			
Webmaster, Jane's Walks	Chris Gooderham	webmaster@peterboroughnature.org	740-2081			
Ontario Nature Representative	Ted Vale	tedandmarion@sympatico.ca	741-3641			



Membership Renewals:

PFN memberships expire on December 31st each year but Orchid deliveries will continue until March. After August new memberships are valid until the end of the following year. A tax receipt is issued for memberships and donations.

ORCHID SUBMISSIONS WANTED!

Submission deadline for the November issue is **Monday October 26th**.

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



NOTICE: November Monthly Meeting Date Changed

Attention PFN members! The November monthly meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 10th** at the Peterborough Public Library. Please mark November 10th on your calendars, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

PFN Trip Report: Shorebirds and Monarchs, August 29th

Article submitted by Brian Wales; Photos courtesy of Jim Young



The trip to Presqu'île Provincial Park was the first organized PFN field trip of the fall season. The leaders were Martin Parker and Matthew Tobey.

The weather was perfect for a lakeside trip, being neither too hot nor too cool. The main objective was to search for fall migrant shorebirds, and to collect Monarch butterflies, for later tagging by the Park staff. Monarchs were few and far between, and those we did see did not contribute to scientific research voluntarily.

Two Monarchs were eventually caught by enthusiastic members. Martin came close to capturing one, but it was not to be. I myself tried and failed so it was left to the younger members to succeed!

We saw mixed groups of Least Sandpipers, Semipalmated Sandpipers, Semipalmated Plovers and a few Sanderlings on the beaches. At times they came within a few metres of our group, and it was surprising how small they appeared to us.

Matthew spotted a White-rumped Sandpiper further along the beach, and quickly set up a scope for us to view it. He explained how to identify it from the other sandpipers. We also saw a few Spotted Sandpipers and the corpse of a Cormorant.

Matthew also picked out a Stilt Sandpiper, which quickly took to the wing. This was a new bird for me! There were many birds seen at a distance on the islands and in the waters between, including a Great Egret. We stopped for a picnic lunch by the lake and admired a colourful fungi named Chicken of the Woods at the base of a tree (see page 2 of Orchid).

The butterfly tagging was very interesting and needed some dexterous finger work for the task. Some of the PFN members assisted in the placement of the tags.

We had an interesting walk around the exhibits inside the Park's Nature Centre which contained a variety of fish, amphibians and insects.

When we first arrived at the park, Martin advised us to look for orchids that were growing alongside the paths. I walked past many orchids before they were pointed out to me. Each flower on the stem was growing in a spiral fashion when viewed from above. Lovely, white Hooded Ladies-tresses approximately 7 inches tall. Once you knew what to look for, it was easy to find more.



On the drive back to Peterborough we stopped at the sewage ponds at Brighton. Many ducks were seen through a chain link fence. We observed a few more birds on the way back, including two Kestrels, a male Northern Harrier, three Turkey Vultures and a Belted Kingfisher.

A good start to the fall season that I'm sure everyone enjoyed to the full!

PFN Trip Report: Sunday, September 6th Wildlife Walk

Article and photo submitted by Dave Milsom

Six members took the first PFN hike of the season on Sunday, September 6th of the Labour Day weekend. The early morning group included Dave Milsom (leader), Martin Parker, Jerry Ball, Brian Wales, Mitch Brownstein and Meredith Clark.

We first hiked the South Drumlin trail along the Trent Canal, just south of Trent University. After the previous night's rain, several migrants were encountered: best finds were Belted Kingfisher, 2 Northern Flickers, Eastern Wood Pewee, Blue-headed Vireo, 3 White-breasted Nuthatch, American Redstart, Cape May, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, at least 5 Magnolia and 3 Northern Parula Warblers close to the Nassau Mills Road bridge.



Bottle Gentian, September 6,
Trent University South Drumlin Trail

Our second stop was the Trent Rail Trail area around Promise Rock, east from Lock 22 on the Otonabee River. Here we found another nice warbler flock including 5 Black and White, 2 Redstarts, 3 Magnolia, a Cape May, Parula, Pine and Bay-breasted, as well as an unidentified thrush species.

Our final walk, around Lakefield Sewage Lagoons, produced 5 Wood Ducks, a Black Duck, 2 Blue-winged and one Green-winged Teal, 2 Lesser Scaup and 6 Hooded Mergansers among the mixed waterfowl flock. On the tracks between the two ponds were a dozen Savannah Sparrows feeding on weed seeds.

We finished the morning at Tim Hortons in Lakefield at 11:30 am.

PFN Trip Report: A Rainy Morning at Cavan Swamp, Sunday, September 13th

Submitted by Lynn Smith



Five hearty souls and our leader, Scott McKinlay, met at the Peterborough Zoo on Sunday, September 13th, optimistic that the misty day would transition to a sunny day. The plan was to explore spots along three creeks (Jackson, Cavan and Baxter) that run through Cavan Monaghan Township.

Well, so much for best laid plans. Our misty day turned into a very rainy day. We were slowly getting drenched at Cavan Swamp and decided to try again another day.

Despite the rain we still managed to have some fun, although I'm sure everyone looked forward to a hot shower by the time they arrived home.

Nineteen species were observed:

30 Ring-billed Gulls
Mallard Ducks
Common Yellowthroat
Cedar Waxwing
Robin
Goldfinch
Great Blue Heron

200 Canada Geese
2 Wood Ducks
Black-throated Green Warbler
Catbird
Flicker
Wild Turkey

12 Crows
1 Cormorant
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Chickadee
Mourning Dove
Blue Jay

PFN Trip Report: Juniors Enjoy a Wetland Scavenger Hunt, Sunday, September 20th
Article and photo submitted by Lara Griffin

The Juniors group recently enjoyed a Wetland Scavenger Hunt at Millbrook Valley Trails. We explored the area surrounding the wetland, reading the clues on our lists and using our observation skills to draw the many plants we found. In the benthics sampling activity we learned about indicators of water quality and had an up close look at crayfish, dragonfly nymphs, burrowing mayflies, scuds, mosquito larvae, among others, using the magnifying viewers.



Thank you very much to Alex McLeod, Katie Paroschy and Sarah Sinclair for organizing this fun-filled event and for teaching us about the many invertebrates and wetland plants we found!

Harmful Schemes and Sandpiper Dreams
Submitted by Murray Palmer

So lifelike a ceramic figure sculpted by Bill Eakins' skillful hands,
 The Upland Sandpiper stands as if scanning its home of dry uplands.
 So accurately was it formed and painted that I almost hear it calling;
 Its mournful 'wolf-whistle' is one of Nature's sounds ever enthralling.
 Large, dark eyes with white eye-ring and dove head a bearing impart,
 Suggesting this long-legged, slim-necked bird is more real than mere art.
 My subconscious self rises to the surface, and starts to speak in words;
 For me, nothing is more seductive than the enchanting world of birds.
 If I close my eyes when it's quiet, I can hear fields and meadows singing.
 Now other prairie birds like you are few, a tragedy of man's bringing.
 As passenger pigeons dwindled, market gunners turned their sights on you ...
 At only five to seven ounces undressed, it was a foolish thing to do.
 At one time 'uppies' bred from Alaska down to Kansas and over to Maine;
 Now except for the Great Plains, your remnant numbers are on the wane.
 Fields of forty acres or more changed to forest; suburbs are encroaching.
 Without human intervention, I fear a dearth of prairie soon approaching.
 In my dreams I see you flutter to a fencepost, wings held above your back.
 For a moment I admire your white plumage marked in brown and black.
 Somewhere are nests concealed in taller grass, somewhere on the ground,
 With four pinkish-buff, spotted eggs hidden by stems bent down 'round.
 Still hunted on your southern winter range, you're protected in the North.
 How I wish I could hear your sweet, flute-like calls once again pour forth!

Murray Palmer, 2015

Which Wild Pollinators Are in Decline and Why?

Reproduced from the Ontario Nature Blog (www.ontarionature.org)

There are thousands of wild pollinators in Ontario. Bees and flies are most significant, but butterflies, beetles, wasps, ants, moths and hummingbirds also pollinate plants. It is important to keep this in mind when reading about pollinator decline, which has been a hot news topic for many years.

Pollinators are far more numerous and diverse, and the issue of pollinator decline is far more complex than one would gather from the news. Each pollinator has a unique evolutionary history, habitat requirement, distribution, abundance and vulnerability to threats.

Media have too often focused on two species: the European honey bee (an introduced species) and the monarch butterfly (a native migratory species). In terms of threats, media have focused on neonicotinoids, commonly-used systemic insecticides which are proven to have lethal and sublethal effects on pollinators.

Neonics, as they are often called, are particularly harmful to species (both native and non-native) that inhabit agricultural landscapes. The European honey bee, used by farmers to pollinate crops, is directly and indirectly exposed to neonicotinoids. The monarch butterfly, which migrates through the United States' Corn Belt, is also heavily exposed.

The fate of these two species (the honey bee and monarch) and the threat posed by pesticides (including neonicotinoid insecticides) are of great importance, but the story is so much bigger.

[What] about the pollinators occurring outside of agricultural regions – those in cities, towns, forests, alvars, sand dunes and grasslands. Are they also in decline? If so, what are the main threats to their survival?

[Research] efforts are hampered by limited baseline data available for most insect groups. It is difficult to determine change in a species' population and range without historic data.

Sufficient data do exist for two insect groups – bumble bees and butterflies, which have been studied for quite some time. This makes it possible for us to assess them and examine threats to their populations.

In partnership with the IUCN Bumblebee Group Specialist group, Dr. Sheila Colla at York University recently contributed to the North American Red List assessments for 46 North American bumble bees. [The group] found that 1/4 to 1/3 of assessed species are at risk of extinction. Some species have experienced drastic declines while others have experienced slow and steady declines. Still other species have shown remarkable stability and, in some cases, increases in abundance and distribution.

Most of the [declining bumble bee] species have expansive ranges covering a number of habitat types and political jurisdictions. This is true for the endangered rusty-patched bumble bee, which was the focus of Dr. Colla's PhD work. This species historically ranged from southern Ontario and Quebec in the north to Georgia in the south, and from North Dakota and South Dakota in the west to the Atlantic coast in the east.

The rusty-patched bumble bee's 90 percent decline throughout its extensive range cannot be explained by pesticide use or habitat loss alone. More is at play, as discussed in "The Other Missing Bee", an article in the Fall 2013 issue of ON Nature. Dr. Colla is studying the species' habits and ecology to determine its vulnerability to multiple threats, which often work in combination. These threats include habitat loss, climate change, pathogen spillover from managed bees, pesticide exposure and invasive species.

Placing the blame on one smoking gun, or focusing conservation efforts on one or two species, is misguided. To effectively conserve Ontario's great diversity of pollinators, we must do the following:

- Develop a deeper knowledge of the complexity of pollinator species and ecosystems.
- Use science to inform conservation actions and policy.
- Acknowledge that each species has its own ecological needs and vulnerabilities, and support species in decline, instead of pollinators as a group.

Dr. Colla helped create Bumble Bee Watch (bumblebeewatch.org), a citizen science project which engages non-scientists in bumble bee research and conservation. Please visit the website and get involved. Scientists need your help.

Ed. Note: Dr. Colla is also co-author of "The Bumble Bees of North America: An Identification Guide". The website and/or book can be interesting sources of reading this winter for aspiring citizen scientists.



KAWARTHA LAND TRUST
Protecting the land you love.

Help Save Boyd Island!

Submitted by Shari Paykarimah, Land Stewardship & Volunteer Coordinator, Kawartha Land Trust

The Kawartha Land Trust has embarked on a campaign to save Boyd (Big) Island from development. This is the largest undeveloped and unprotected island in southern Ontario, and home to diverse habitats and species.

Located in Pigeon Lake just east of Bobcaygeon, it covers more than 1,100 acres. First Nations peoples used this Island as a meeting and harvesting place thousands of years ago, and today it has compelling cultural value to them and to many others in the area. It was formerly owned and farmed by the Boyd family, one of the first and most prominent settlement families from Bobcaygeon.



Credit: CBRE

More recently, the island has been owned by a succession of private owners who have tried to develop it for residential and commercial purposes. The most recent development plan was to create 95 residential lots. Losing this property to development would be a tragedy and the beauty and value of this natural Island would be lost forever.



Credit: Warren Dunlop

An exceptional opportunity has been offered to the Kawartha Land Trust (KLT) to secure Boyd Island on Pigeon Lake and forever conserve its natural and cultural heritage. The current landowner intends to generously donate the

island to KLT, provided that necessary funds to manage the property in a natural state in perpetuity can be raised before November 30, 2015. The goal is to raise \$1,000,000, to be held in trust by KLT, to generate sufficient annual income to support basic stewardship activities on the island. After a very successful launch in late August, the campaign has already reached one third of this goal.

Some of the more interesting features on the island include:



Credit: Warren Dunlop

- diverse and largely intact habitats, including old growth forests, large Shagbark Hickory, White Oak, White Pine, and endangered Butternut trees;
- located in "The Land Between" transition zone of limestone and granite bedrock, with distinctive cliffs, ridge and alvar along the north and west shores;
- productive wetlands and a continuous 11 km natural shoreline;
- nearby to the Oliver Centre and the Nogies Creek waterway to foster education, research, recreation and ecological connections; and,
- a rich mix of wildlife and plants, including several species at risk;
- evidence of some of the earliest use of ceramics in the Kawarthas by First Nations (2000 years ago); and,
- other scenic and significant features, as recognized over several decades in provincial, federal and scientific reports.

A trail system, careful use, research and education will help KLT and the community to get to know this amazing island better over time.

Thanks to the generosity of the current owners, the efforts of KLT, and the co-operation of local citizens and municipalities, KLT is very close to securing title to the Island so that its natural and cultural features can be protected for all to enjoy. Please contribute to this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and consider sponsoring an Island acre for \$1000. Visit www.kawarthalandtrust.org for further details.

KLT is a registered charity that protects more than 10 significant properties across the Kawarthas, including a 715-acre wetland in the vicinity of Emily Creek, south of Bobcaygeon. Another 10 properties have been conserved through KLT's assistance to others.



Left:
Zigzag Goldenrod,
September 6th,
Trent University
~ Submitted by
Dave Milsom

Right:
Club-spur Orchid,
July 16th,
Bottle Creek
~ Submitted by
Mike McMurtry



From the Archives – Project from 1960s

Submitted by Martin Parker

Volume V, No. 1 – January 1960

GOOD NEWS FOR BIRD FEEDERS:

Word has been received by the Editor that bird-feeder supplies are on the way at reasonable prices:

Peanut germ	5 cents a pound
Sunflower Seed	15 cents a pound
Mixture: cracked wheat, corn, buckwheat, sunflower seed & peanut	15 cents a pound

It will all be packed in 5 and 10 lb. sacks for your convenience and will be sold in 5 and 10 pound lots.
If you're interested put your order in EARLY – quantity limited.

Volume V, Number 2 – February 1960

LAST CHANCE FOR EXCELLENT BIRD SEED – AT BARGAIN PRICES!

Sunflower seed (the Grosbeaks are coming)	15 cents a pound
Mixture (peanut germ, sunflower, corn, etc.)	10 cents a pound

(When the present stock is gone there'll be no more this winter)

Order now from F.R. Pammett, EVENINGS ONLY!

Contributor's Note: The club does not sell bird seed to its members. The PFN does maintain the bird feeders at Ecology Park. It is also time to prepare your backyard feeders for the upcoming winter months to aid our wintering birds.

The 2016 North American Envirothon is Coming to Peterborough; Volunteers are Needed!

Submitted by Lynn Smith

Forests Ontario (<http://www.forestsontario.ca/>) is an organization with a mission to be recognized as the voice for Ontario's forests, through the support and promotion of forest restoration, stewardship, education and awareness.

One of its annual education projects is the Ontario Envirothon.

How Envirothon Works:

Across North America, participating high schools assemble teams of 5 students (Grades 9 to 12). These teams compete at regional events where they will be introduced to basic concepts in environmental science including soils, forestry, wildlife and aquatics through workshops and field trips. Teams then prepare for the testing and presentation component. The total score for each team is based on a combination of scores from the testing and the presentation components.

Next, the winning team from each regional competition represents their local area at the Ontario Envirothon Championship. In 2015 a total of 24 teams from across Ontario competed at a 4-day Provincial Envirothon Competition that was held at Sir Sandford Fleming College in Lindsay.

The team that wins the provincial competition will represent Ontario at the North American Envirothon Competition (<http://www.ontarioenvirothon.on.ca/index.php/2016competition>).

Forests Ontario is pleased to announce that, for the first time, the North American Envirothon (NAE) will be held in Ontario. Specifically, in our area! Trent University will be hosting the competition from July 24th to 29th, 2016!

The 2016 NAE will bring together more than 700 teachers, students, and volunteers from across North America to take part in the program.

Over the course of five days, students representing more than 50 regions will come together at Trent University to participate in workshops and projects that will support them in becoming informed and enthusiastic environmental stewards, and encourage them to pursue studies and careers in the field.

How YOU can help:

- There are several ways to get involved and support this program, including becoming a sponsor or donor, volunteering, or joining one of the planning committees.
- They need more volunteers to come forward to help plan and lead workshops, field trips and testing in the 'Wildlife' area (<http://www.ontarioenvirothon.on.ca/index.php/wildlife>). The curriculum for Wildlife is posted on the website.

Allison Hands, Educational Coordinator at Forests Ontario, will be speaking at the PFN's October 14th meeting to answer questions. For more information about how you can get involved, call Forests Ontario at 1-877-646-1193 or email them at envirothon@forestsontario.ca.

Sunset over Thompson Creek, Peterborough, September 9th ~ Submitted by Dave Milsom



Still More Certificates and Awards for the PFN!

In recognition of PFN's 75th Anniversary, a few more certificates were recently awarded:



Peterborough Field Naturalists – 75th Anniversary Special Award

The Peterborough Field Naturalists (PFN) has played an important role in building awareness, care and advocacy for the natural world in our County for the past 75 years.

Since 1953, the PFN has conducted the annual Peterborough Christmas Bird Count (the longest operating annual wildlife survey in the area) and supports the Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count and the Petroglyphs Butterfly Count. It published the first summary of Birds of the Peterborough Area in 1958 and published a number of special publications on the natural history of the Peterborough area.

With funding from Parks Canada, the PFN erected "Swift Towers" for Chimney Swifts at various locations in the region including Fairhaven Retirement Facility and the lock at Buckhorn. The PFN has provided informative workshops on nature to inspire a new generation of young naturalists truly becoming Peterborough County's voice for nature.

In a world of every increasing development and urban sprawl, teaching our community about the value of green spaces and natural habitats becomes ever more important. The critical work that the Peterborough Field Naturalists has undertaken to help us value and protect the natural world is being honoured with this special award with the hope that the PFN can continue to do so for the next 75 years at least!





The Orchid Diary



Martin Parker has kindly volunteered to continue the Orchid Diary and carry on the tradition of reporting significant and important observations of nature in Peterborough County, following the tradition initiated by J. L. McKeever in the 1950s and continued by Frank Pammett, Doug Sadler, Rhea Bringeman and Tony Bigg.

Please submit your interesting observations to Martin Parker at mparker19@cogeco.ca or phone **705-745-4750**. Observations submitted to e-bird will also be consulted.

June to Sept	A Black-crowned Night-Heron was found along the Otonabee River in the area upstream from the London Street pedestrian bridge in June, was present during July and August, and seen by many different observers. It has also been observed along the creek at Beavermead Park (multiple observers). It was still present north of the London Street bridge on September 19.
July 16	Mike McMurtry located a small population of Club-spur Orchid (<i>Platanthera clavellata</i>) along Bottle Creek in Kawartha Highlands Signature Site. On 1999 Plant List of Peterborough County on the basis of historic records. Photographed.
June 24	Milda Bax had a visit by a Black Bear which peered in the windows of her home on Parkhill Road West. She identified it as a young male.
June 26	A sow Black Bear with two cubs was seen at the intersection of Parkhill Road and Hwy 7 by Ken Bax.
July/Aug.	The Peregrine Falcons nesting on a cliff in the north end of the county this summer fledged three young (John Faultey).
Aug/Sept	Don McLeod reported that in the area of his residence on Chemong Lake there has been population surge of Eastern Cottontails (rabbits) this summer. He reported they are being observed daily in many yards.
Aug 11	At the Lakefield Lagoon there was a juvenile Baird's Sandpiper and one Bonaparte's Gull observed by Dave Milsom and Bill Crins. Both species were present for a period thereafter.
Aug 14	Two Redheads and one Lesser Scaup (ducks) on the Lakefield Lagoon by multiple observers. Both species remained and were seen by others for the balance of the month and beyond. The number of Lesser Scaup increased as the month progressed.
Aug 19	Six Red-necked Phalaropes were found on the Lakefield Lagoon by Martin Parker, Luke Berg and Matthew Tobey, and seen by many observers. Photos in Aug-September issue of Orchid. Record high number for Peterborough.
Aug 19	Three Wild Indigo Duskywings and one Columbine Duskywing (butterflies) at the Kawartha Lake Trust Dance Reserve by Luke Berg and Matthew Tobey as part of group from PFN, Kawartha Land Trust and Peterborough Green-up doing a survey of the property. Gray Tree Frogs were calling, forecasting rain which came the next day.
Aug 20	Last reported observation for Red-necked Phalarope at Lakefield Lagoon (one individual) by Donald Sutherland.
Aug 24	Dave Milsom reported that, due to the cooler temperature the previous evening, there was a mini-fallout of warblers on the drumlin south of Trent University on the west side of the canal. He had 6 Chestnut-sided , 4 Black-throated Green , 3 Blackburnian , 2 Black-and-White , 1 Golden-winged , Magnolia , and Pine Warblers , Northern Parula along with 5 Eastern Wood-Pee-wee .
Aug 28	Orange-crowned Warbler at above location by Dave Milsom. First of fall migration.
Aug 27	Great Egret on Indian River, north of Peterborough County Road 2 at Keene seen by Luke Berg, Matthew Tobey and others.

Aug 29	Single Great Black-backed Gull at the Bensfort Landfill Site by Donald Sutherland. First of the fall season.
Aug 29	Giant Swallowtail (butterfly) on Mill Road, Keene (west bank of Indian River) by returning participants of the PFN outing to Presqu'île.
Sept 2	Baltimore Oriole in Millbrook by Jeff Stewart and one in the Scollard Road area of Peterborough by Dave Milsom. Other observations reported from both Millbrook and Peterborough over the next few days.
Sept 4	Bonaparte's Gull on Lakefield Lagoon by Bill Crins.
Early Sept	An adult Black-crowned Night-Heron on lake north of Havelock by Kim and Mark Zippel.
Sept 5	Yellow Warbler at the Lakefield Lagoon by Ian Rayner and Bill Crins. Two American Egrets on a pond off Hwy 115 in area of Airport Road by Luke Berg and Dave Milsom. Late Baltimore Oriole in Rotary Park by Basil Conlin.
Sept 6	Eastern Kingbird at the Trent Nature Areas by Luke Berg, as well as an Olive-sided Flycatcher at the Lakefield Lagoon by Iain Rayner.
Sept 9	Paul Elliott had a Star-nosed Mole wandering around on his pool cover. It was captured and released.
Sept 9	On the PFN Walk lead by Dave Milsom a total of four Northern Parula were found. Other warblers found included Pine (singing), Magnolia , Cape May and Nashville . Fog overnight probably dropped migrants.
Sept 9	Olive-sided Flycatcher and Willow Flycatcher at the Lakefield Lagoon by Bill Crins.
Sept 13	First Greater Scaup of the fall migration at Pengelley Landing on Rice Lake by Iain Rayner.
Sept 16	A Solitary Sandpiper at Beavermead Park by Bill Crins. One Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on John Street, Peterborough by Donald Sutherland, and Warbling Vireos at both the Lakefield Lagoon and Beavermead Park by Bill Crins.
Sept 20	Major movement of Broad-winged Hawks today. In a 2 ½ hour period during the PFN outing to Kidd farm near Douro, Matthew Tobey and Luke Berg counted 362 individuals passing over – kettle after kettle. There were also Osprey , Red-tailed Hawk , Red-shouldered Hawk , Turkey Vultures and Sandhill Cranes flying over. On Carveth Drive near Millbrook Jeff Stewart observed another 90 Broad-winged Hawks passing over in the late morning. At St. Anne Church, Peterborough, Iain Rayner observed another 25 Broad-winged Hawks passing over in small groups.

Wild Turkey, June 2015,
Point Pelee National Park
(Editorial licence, as this bird was not
photographed in Peterborough City/County)

~ Submitted by Marla Williams

Happy Thanksgiving!





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: _____