

The Orchid

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Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists

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Know • Appreciate • Conserve Nature in All its Forms



White-tailed Deer, Stoney Lake, January 7th ~ Submitted by Rene Gareau

Inside: 'An Owl Sighting to Crow About'
Ontario Nature Regional Spring Meeting
East Cross Forest Bioblitz
North Woods: Past, Present & Future

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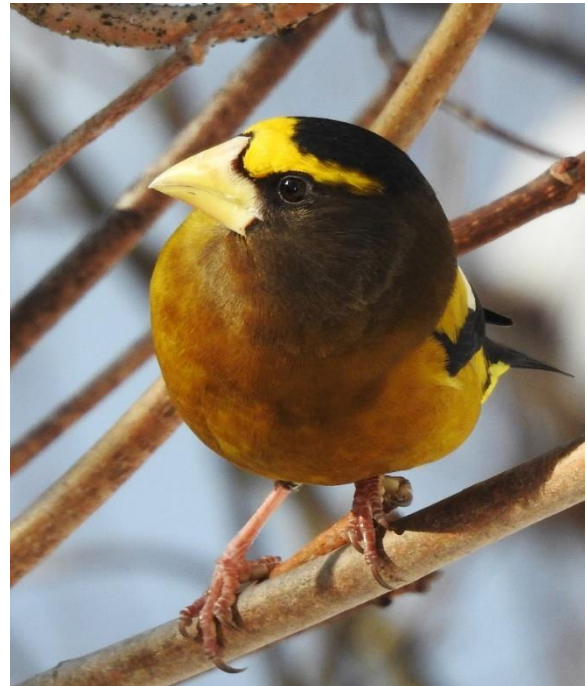
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Barred Owl, Jackson Park, January 21st
~ Submitted by Basil Conlin

Welcome New PFN Members!

Martyn Obbard
Amy Blaser
Arnold Zageris
Christine Terwissen
Susan Lawrence
Fred Kooy
Karen Kooy



"At the Visitor Centre on January 7th, a flock of 35 Evening Grosbeaks flew in to the feeders to eat sunflower seeds. Occasionally one would perch fairly high up in a nearby tree, allowing me to get a pleasing close up of the bird".

~ Submitted by Dave Milsom, Algonquin Park, January 7th

Coming Events	
<p>January through March</p> <p>Dates, times and locations TBD</p>	<p>Wildlife Tracking Outings</p> <p>Once again this year PFN member and expert tracker Don McLeod is leading one or more outings during the months of January to March, focusing on tracks and other wildlife sign. These outings will be scheduled when weather conditions permit. The place and time will be announced by email shortly before each outing.</p> <p>Anyone interested in attending should send an email to Don McLeod (donaIdmcleod.com@gmail.com) so he can add you to an email distribution list. If you signed up for last year's outings you will automatically receive an email.</p>
<p>Saturday March 5th</p> <p>6:45 am</p> <p>Tim Horton's, Sobey's Plaza, Lansdowne Street West</p>	<p>Owl Woods on Amherst Island</p> <p>We are invited to join Kingston Field Naturalists' Mark Read on a visit to Owl Woods on Amherst Island. At the eastern end of Lake Ontario and west of Kingston, Amherst Island is known for its concentration of wintering owls. The owls and hawks are the top predators on the island and the hunters of mice and voles in the grasslands. The number and variety vary from year-to-year but normally one can find Snowy, Short-eared and Long-eared Owls. Depending on the northern flight other species will be present. Arrangements are being made to have some members of the Kingston Field Naturalists join us for this outing.</p> <p>Martin Parker will lead the group from Peterborough. We will catch the 9:30 am ferry to the island. Bring a packed lunch, clothes suitable for the weather, binoculars and camera.</p>
<p>Wednesday March 9th</p> <p>7:30 pm</p> <p>Camp Kawartha Environment Centre Pioneer Road, Peterborough</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting: Restoring an Extirpated Species to Lake Ontario</p> <p>Kevin Loftus, Manager of the Fish Culture Section, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, will speak to us regarding the bi-national efforts of Canada and the United States to restore an extirpated species in Lake Ontario. The fish species is the bloater "<i>Coregonus hoyi</i>", a small whitefish of the family Salmonidae. This 10-inch long silvery-coloured herring-like fish is the cornerstone of the ecology of our lakes.</p> <p>* Please note the change of venue for this PFN monthly meeting *</p>
<p>Sunday March 13th</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>Country Style, Junction of Old Keene Road and Highway 7</p>	<p>Birding Trip to Presqu'île Provincial Park</p> <p>Join us for a full-day birding trip to Presqu'île, led by Jerry Ball. Thousands of ducks, geese and swans use this resting spot on their spring migrations north. Bring a packed lunch, binoculars and a spotting scope, if you have one. There is an entry fee for each vehicle entering the park. Contact Jerry for more info at 705-745-3272.</p>
<p>Saturday March 26th</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>Tim Horton's, Sobey's Plaza, Lansdowne Street West</p>	<p>Birds of the Lakeshore</p> <p>For many years Tony Bigg led a day of birding along the shore of Lake Ontario, looking out for the first spring migrants. Sadly, Tony is no longer with us, but he would want us to continue the tradition. We can expect a good variety of birds, probably including some winter rarities seldom seen in Peterborough. Bring a lunch and binoculars.</p>

Coming Events cont'd

<p>Sundays April 3rd to May 22nd</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>North Parking Lot, Riverview Park & Zoo Water Street, Peterborough</p>	<p>Sunday morning wildlife outings</p> <p>Our traditional Sunday morning spring outings will take place in April and May. Unless otherwise advertised, walks will start at 8:00 am and we will normally carpool from the parking lot of Peterborough Zoo on Water Street. Outings generally last about three hours. Bring some change to donate towards gas costs and bring binoculars if possible. In most cases the leaders will confirm the destination on the day. Further details will be in April's Orchid and on the PFN website.</p> <p>3rd April: Jerry Ball 10th April: Dave Milsom</p>
<p>Saturday April 16th</p> <p>7:30 to 9:30 pm</p> <p>Tim Horton's Sobey's Plaza Lansdowne Street West</p>	<p>Kermit's Friends and Timber-doodles!</p> <p>The dusk air of the spring carries the mating songs of various species of frogs and the sky dance of the American Woodcock or Timber-doodle. Join Martin Parker for a 2-hour outing listening to, and distinguishing between, the different species of calling frogs and toads of our region, and listen to the courtship flights of the American Woodcock. We will meet at the Tim Horton's (Sobey's Plaza), Lansdowne Street West, and then travel to walk part of Hooton Line through the Cavan Swamp. Please bring a flashlight.</p>
<p>Thursday April 21st</p> <p>6:00 pm to 11:00 pm</p> <p>North parking lot Riverview Park & Zoo Water Street, Peterborough</p>	<p>Night of Salamanders and Frogs</p> <p>Join this evening outing to look for migrating salamanders as they move to their breeding pools. This inventory event will be at the Ingleton-Wells property of the Kawartha Land Trust. The event will commence with the checking of pools for egg masses of Spotted Salamanders. We will then record the frog species calling and check the roadways for migrating salamanders. This is an evening outing. Meet Martin Parker at 6:00 pm at the Peterborough Zoo, from where we will travel to the Ingleton-Wells property on the northwestern part of Stoney Lake. Wear clothes forecast for the weather, waterproof footwear, bring a head lamp or flashlight, and an evening snack or packed supper.</p>

PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12)

Sunday April 3, 2016; anytime between 1:30 pm and 4:00 pm (drop-in format)

Camp Kawartha Environment Centre, 2505 Pioneer Road, Peterborough

Come out and welcome spring with us! The PFN Juniors will be making 3-D mobiles of local pollinator species to create an art display to celebrate the International Day for Biological Diversity. Our display of bees, butterflies, moths, flies and more will be featured in the front window at **Black Honey** on Hunter Street in May (mobiles will be returned to artists). Families are also invited to explore the trails in the Trent Nature Areas before/after making their art. Bring a friend to join in the fun! Please **RSVP to pfnjuniors@gmail.com by March 30th** if you plan to attend so that we can ensure there will be enough crafting supplies to go around. Craft supplies will be provided, but in the spirit of recycling, if you happen to have any craft supplies at home that you wish to donate, we will be pleased to accept them!

What to bring: Water bottle, nut-free snacks, hiking footwear.

Note: Announcements about PFN Juniors events are sent from pfnjuniors@gmail.com - just send an email if you'd like to be on the distribution list to receive reminders and updates (for example, we unfortunately had to cancel the February cross-country skiing due to lack of snow).

Other Events of Interest	
Friday March 4 th 7:00 pm Guest Services Building, Riverview Park & Zoo	Peterborough Astronomical Association Monthly Meeting For more information on their March monthly meeting (solar observing and imaging), and other upcoming events, please visit www.peterboroughastronomy.com .
Fourth Wednesday of each month 7:00 pm Lion's Centre 347 Burnham Street, Peterborough	Peterborough Horticultural Society Monthly Meetings The Peterborough Horticultural Society meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Beginning in March the meetings will be held at the Lion's Centre, 347 Burnham Street in Peterborough. Join us at 6:30 pm for socializing, with the meeting starting at 7:00 pm. Annual membership rates are \$20 individual, \$25 family, \$2 guest. All are welcome and you don't have to be an experienced gardener. For more information visit www.peterboroughhort.com Upcoming Meeting Topics: March 23 - Anna Mizyn of Anna's Perennials - "Cactus and Succulents" April 8, 9, 10 - Peterborough Garden Show at the Evinrude Centre April 27 - Brad White - "An Eclectic English Gardener in Canada" May 14 - Annual Plant Sale, Westdale United Church, 1509 Sherbrooke West, 9-11 am May 25 - Toni Sinclair - "An Insight into Plant Competitions" June 22 - Vicki Taylor Scott - "Cheap and Cheerful Gardening" September 28 - Gifts from the Garden Demonstrations October 26 - Gail & Todd Grainger - "All About Garlic" November 23 - David Beresford - "Bugs in the Garden"
Thursday March 10 th 7:30 pm Wenjack Theatre, Otonabee College, Trent University	Reflections on the North Woods: Past, Present and Future The David Schindler Professorship in Aquatic Science Lecture The North Woods is one of the most ecologically, geologically, and aesthetically interesting places you will find. The North Woods is a band of forest centred on the Great Lakes region and the St. Lawrence River where the range of sugar maple and other northern hardwoods to the south overlaps with that of balsam fir and boreal conifers to the north. This lecture explores the nature and natural history of the North Woods, how it became assembled, how its resident organisms interact with each other, and its future in light of expected global warming and human change. Presented by Dr. John Pastor, Department of Biology, University of Minnesota Duluth. For more info email alisonscholl@trentu.ca or phone 705-748-1011, extension 6344.
Saturday March 19 10:00 am Frost Campus, Fleming College, Lindsay	Food Energy Water EcoHealth Conference The Ecosystem Management Program at Fleming College presents this year's annual Ecosystem Health Conference, which focuses on strategies to reduce food waste, enhance food security, and promote water and energy conservation. The conference features workshops, vendors, exhibits, 100-mile dinner, panel discussion and keynote speaker Bob McDonald (host of CBC Radio's Quirks and Quarks). Cost: General Admission: \$25, Student Admission: \$20. For more information please visit http://ecoconference.wix.com/ecohealthconference#!blank/khld3 .

Other Events of Interest cont'd

<p>Friday April 8th through Sunday April 10th</p> <p>Evinrude Centre, Peterborough</p>	<p>Peterborough Garden Show 2016</p> <p>Come welcome spring at one of Ontario's largest garden shows! The annual Peterborough Garden Show is sponsored by the Peterborough Horticultural Society and area Master Gardeners. The 3-day event hosts many garden-related vendors, exhibitors, daily speakers, informative workshops, displays, arrangements and advice. Proceeds from the show are used for scholarships and local beautification projects. For more details check out www.peterboroughgardens.ca.</p>
<p>Saturday April 9th</p> <p>Toronto Botanical Gardens 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto</p>	<p>Ontario Nature's Spring Regional Meeting</p> <p>Location: Toronto Botanical Gardens, 777 Lawrence Avenue East www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca (southwest corner of Lawrence & Leslie Avenue)</p> <p>Speakers: Eric Davis, U of Toronto, Faculty of Forestry – Insect and Bird Diversity on Native and Non-Native Trees Jason Ramsay-Brown, TFN member - Toronto's Ravines and Urban Forest Lynn Miller, TFN board member – TFN 2015 Membership Survey Colleen Cirillo, Toronto Botanical Gardens' Director of Education – Social Media</p> <p>Ontario Nature updates on: Endangered Species Act Lawsuit, Appeal to be heard on April 19, 2016; MNRF proposed major changes to rules for hunting wolves & coyotes in Northern Ontario; New monitoring projects for wildlife conservation; Building a Citizen Science Directory; Working with Forest Stewardship Council to protect the boreal forest; Advocating for a strong pollinator health strategy; Supporting strong legislation to protect wetlands; Growing the Greenbelt</p> <p>Interpretive Hike: Miles Hearn, TFN Hike Leader, will guide a hike in the Wilket Creek ravine and adjacent Sunnybrook Park in the afternoon. PFN members and Junior members are welcome!</p>
<p>Friday May 13th to Saturday May 14th</p> <p>East Cross Forest 4560 Devitts Road Scugog Township</p>	<p>East Cross Forest "Bioblitz"</p> <p>Hosted by the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust & Kawartha Conservation; supported by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.</p> <p>The East Cross Forest (540 hectares) is designated as a Natural Core Area on the Oak Ridges Moraine. The forest can be accessed from 4560 Devitts Road, Scugog Township, or at 4531 Boundary Road. http://kawarthaconservation.com/conservation-areas/durham-east-cross-forest</p> <p>The intent of the 24-hour Bioblitz is to document all species on the property in the categories of birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, insects, plants, mushrooms/lichens, and insects during this period.</p> <p>Volunteers will work in groups of 3 to 5, led by one individual having a high level of expertise in a particular category. Twenty-eight specialists and about 100 volunteers are needed for this exciting initiative.</p> <p>If interested in participating please contact Kristie Virgoe at 905-853-3171, extension 31, or email Kristie at kvirgoe@oakridgesmoraine.org.</p>

Orchid submissions are encouraged!

Submission deadline for the March issue is **Monday, March 28th**.

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



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.

Note: This will be the last Orchid for those who have not renewed their membership for 2016 by April. Memberships are valid for one year and expire on December 31st. If you are not sure if your membership has been renewed contact Jim Young at jbyoung559@gmail.com or (705) 760-9397.

PFN Board of Directors				Other Volunteers		
President, Harper Park	Lynn Smith	smithfam@nexicom.net	944-5599	Membership Secretary	Jim Young	760-9397
Vice President, Harper Park	Kim Zippel	kimzippel@nexicom.net	740-0587	Orchid Editor	Marla Williams	874-5653
Secretary, Archives	Martin Parker	mparker19@cogeco.ca	745-4750	Orchid Mailing	Mary Thomas	
Treasurer	Don Pettypiece	don.pettypiece@gmail.com	750-1145	Jr. Naturalists	Lara Griffin	749-3639
Program (indoor), Stewardship Council, Fisheries Council	Phil Shaw	pshaw78@hotmail.com	874-1688	Ecology Park Feeders	JB Jaboor, Don Finigan	
Program (indoor), Harper Park	Marie Duchesneau	duchesneau13@hotmail.com	874-5739	Orchid Diary	Martin Parker	745-4750
Program (outdoor)	Paul Elliott	paulelliott@trentu.ca	740-0501	Miller Creek Management	Jim Cashmore, Jim Young, Ted Vale	
Harper Park, Special Projects	Rene Gareau	rene.gareau@sympatico.ca	741-4560	Municipal Planning Committee	Jim Cashmore, Jim Young, Martin Parker, Ted Vale, Michael Colley	
Webmaster, Jane’s Walks	Chris Gooderham	webmaster@peterboroughnature.org	740-2081	Peterborough Christmas Bird Count	Martin Parker	
Ontario Nature Rep, Harper Park	Ted Vale	tedandmarion@sympatico.ca	741-3641	Peterborough Butterfly Count	Jerry Ball	
Website	Marilyn Hubley	mhubley@sympatico.ca	760-9378	Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count	Colin Jones	
Harper Park	Michael Colley	michaelgcolley@gmail.com	(519) 729-4223	PO Box 1532, Peterborough ON K9J 7H7		

PFN Volunteer Corner

Volunteers are needed to staff PFN display tables at two upcoming events!



1) Peterborough Garden Show:

During the Peterborough Garden Show on April 8th, 9th and 10th the Peterborough Field Naturalists will host a booth and display. We are looking for volunteers to take a 3 or 4-hour shift at the booth. Two people are needed per shift. It's a great opportunity to meet and chat with folks who are interested in our Club activities! Please contact Lynn Smith if you would like to be involved: smithfam@nexicom.net or 705-944-5599. Thank you!

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2) Earth Day celebration at the Gamiing Nature Centre

The Gamiing Nature Centre (<http://www.gamiing.org/home.php>), located at 1884 Pigeon Lake Road, has invited the PFN to set up our display booth at their annual Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 23rd.

Please contact Lynn Smith smithfam@nexicom.net or 705-944-5599 if you can volunteer a few hours to help staff this PFN display. Thank you!

PFN Juniors Trip Report: Owl Prowl

Submitted by Lara Griffin

The PFN Juniors enjoyed a night hike with clear skies and a full moon on Saturday, January 23rd. We branched off into two groups to do some owl calling on the trails in the Trent Nature Areas with leaders Sean Smith and Dave Milsom. We didn't hear any owls call back, but the kids said it was fun to try and also to learn about the owls that live in Peterborough and how to identify their calls. After the hike we warmed up at the Camp Kawartha Environment Centre with popcorn and hot chocolate while watching a few nature-themed film shorts.

From the Archives – Extracts from the 40th Anniversary of the Peterborough Field Naturalists, 1940 to 1980

Submitted by Martin Parker

'''Extracts from 40th Anniversary of the Peterborough Field Naturalists 1940 to 1980'

Edited by John E. Fitzgerald

Entertainment was part of the 1947 Annual Meeting at which V.R. Henry was elected Present. Howard Vaughan, accompanied by Charles Allan, sang. However, a motion to have no musical entertainment was approved for the 1948 Annual Meeting. (Editor's Note: There are several conclusions one could draw from this motion.)

Morley Powell took on the post of President for 1948. Margaret Eastwood was still working on her plant census and a book for recording the plans was purchased. Note: They had trouble, too, in those days of collecting dues.

J. L. McKeever was certainly was a great asset in the club, became President in 1949. A junior club was still in evidence. The start of The Orchid was made in this year. It was then known as a newsletter and two were issued.

Mr. McKeever was returned as President for 1950 even though, at the time of the Annual Meeting, J.L. was absent due to illness.

It is noted that through many of these years the financial report by the Treasurer was given but the figures or bank balance never recorded. They must have been good. The club kept operating.

One of our illustrious members, J.L. McKeever, became active with a typewriter and produced three years of the Peterborough Nature Club News, which preceded our Orchid. In March 1950, No. 1 Vol. 1 was circulated to the members. McKeever wrote that an association with the Audubon Society was created and the Screen Tour Series was introduced. That year Mr. Lewis Bird (how fitting) was the Secretary-Treasurer of the club."

Current Notes:

1. The original name for the Peterborough Naturalists, which was adopted in 1971 when incorporation occurred, was the Peterborough Nature Club. In the mid-1960s until 1971 it was called the Peterborough Naturalists' Club.
2. The Audubon Film Series involved presentation of nature films for members and the general public by the leading Naturalists – Film Makers in the continent. These individuals toured the continent to present their films and answer questions from the public. More information to follow in an upcoming newsletter.

An Owl Sighting To Crow About **Poem and photo submitted by Murray Palmer**

Is there a more clamorous sound any woodsman knows
Than when an owl is being mobbed by a murder of crows?
Hereditary enemies, they met on a dull winter morn,
The long-eared owl perched stoically against black, winged scorn.
Shielded by branches, the long-ear blinked and glanced all around
While the crows looked for options, creating a storm of sound.
They laid a steady siege for about three quarters of an hour,
But their nearly crow-sized target summoned his willpower.
The crows apparently lost interest, but a few returned later;
Deadly roost invasions make the corvid a committed owl hater.
Long-eared owls hunt small mammals and birds, mostly mice and voles.
Strictly nocturnal, they fly low over open areas, searching cubbyholes.
Daylight usually finds this owl ensconced in a secluded, dense tree,
Asleep while perched close to the trunk where he's hard to see.
Hunger must have driven this owl to perch close to my bird feeders,
Resulting in enthusiastic interest among Web viewers and tweeters.

Murray Palmer, 2016



Kawartha Land Trust 'Boyd Island Campaign' Update **Submitted by the Kawartha Land Trust**

Kawartha Land Trust has achieved its fundraising goal on the campaign to save Boyd Island!

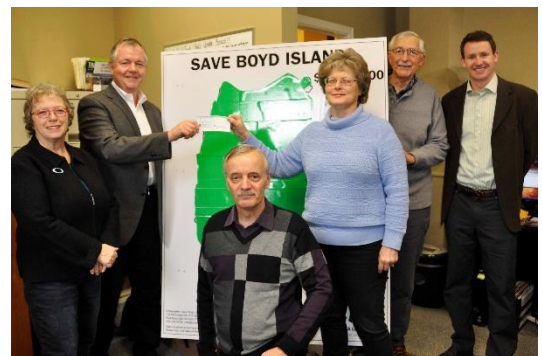
KLT is just waiting on a final approval from the Federal Government. The current landowner intends to generously donate the island to KLT and in order to responsibly own and manage the island long term, the KLT Board challenged the Peterborough community in August, 2015 to raise \$1,000,000 before closing the deal.

Over 575 pledges were made to the campaign, dozens for \$10,000 or more. Local supporting businesses included British Empire Fuels and Kawartha Dairy. A number of individuals have pledged \$100,000, including one charitable foundation, an anonymous donor, and Mike Wilson, the owner of the island.

KLT is thrilled by the generosity of the community, and the commitment and hard work of all the volunteers on its campaign team and beyond!

Plans are now in the works to establish a stewardship committee who will develop and implement detailed management activities and a stewardship plan for the property that includes signage, trails, picnic sites, wildlife and invasive management, and permitted uses.

Boyd, or Big Island, is known as Chiminis by indigenous communities and is the largest undeveloped and unprotected island in southern Ontario. The site is home to unspoiled wetlands, diverse and old growth forests, wildlife, and a wide variety of plant species. First Nations peoples used this island as a meeting and harvesting place thousands of years ago; today it has compelling cultural value to First Nations and to many others in the area.



PFN cheque presentation to the KLT (L to R): Marie Duscheneau, Chris Appleton, Rene Gareau, Lynn Smith, Don Pettigrew, Mike Hendren

For more information, or if you would like to fulfill your pledge, visit the KLT website at kawarthalandtrust.org.

OFO Trip Report: New Year's Day birding in the Peterborough area

Submitted by Dave Milsom

Thirty keen birders spent the day in the Peterborough and Petroglyphs areas, with by far the most open water ever seen on this trip. Dave Milsom and Matthew Tobey were co-leaders of this OFO (Ontario Field Ornithologist) outing. The large expanses of open water resulted in very few birds on the Otonabee River but several surprises elsewhere, including a male Ring-necked Duck on Stony Lake and 3 Northern Shovelers on the Lakefield Lagoons. Altogether 8 waterfowl species were found in the group total of 41.

On Highway 28 we found a group of 40 Bohemian Waxwings. At least 30 Evening Grosbeaks and 40 Pine Siskins were at a feeder on Northey's Bay Road. Up to 3 Red Crossbills were found in Petroglyphs Provincial Park, along with Brown Creepers, White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches, and our second Northern Shrike, which fed on a large dragonfly!

Other good finds included Sharp-shinned Hawk, a 1st-year Bald Eagle over Stony Lake, a single Snow Bunting, Glaucous and Great Black-backed Gulls near the Peterborough Landfill site, 6 Horned Larks on Scriven Road, 3 large flocks of Wild Turkeys, 4 Common Ravens, and at day's end 3 Eastern Screech and a Barred Owl in a woodlot just south of Peterborough.

Extending thanks at the PFN Annual General Meeting

Submitted by Lynn Smith

On January 22nd the PFN's Annual General Meeting was held, during which certificates of appreciation were extended to volunteers who have gone above and beyond the call of duty.

1) Lola Leach Award Recipient – Congratulations to Jim Young!

Jim has worn many hats for the Peterborough Field Naturalists. He joined the Board in 1998 and took on the job as our very first Webmaster. He continued this for 9 years, and then put on the Treasurer hat for the next 10 years. From 2012 to the present Jim has been the Membership Secretary. That's 18 years on the PFN Board!

Jim has also been involved in other Club projects. He helps to maintain the trails at Miller Creek, staffs the PFN display booth at events, participates on some of the Land Use Planning Committees, and much more. With Jim's wealth of knowledge and experience he always provided words of wisdom at the Board Meetings. Well-deserved congratulations to Jim!



Above: Lynn Smith and Jim Young
Below (L to R): Mike McMurtry, Marla Williams, Lynn Smith, JB Jaboor, Dave Milsom, Mary Thomas

2) Certificates of Appreciation

Eight members received certificates of appreciation this year:

Mike McMurtry, Marla Williams, JB Jaboor, Dave Milsom, Mary Thomas, Don Finigan, Lara Griffin and Kelly Boadway.

Many thanks to **all** of the volunteers who take time out of their busy schedules to provide this Club with much-needed assistance!





The Orchid Diary



A summary of noteworthy observations by PFN members and others in the Peterborough Region.

Information is compiled from e-bird, the Drew Monkman Sightings website, PTBO Sightings, and individual submissions. Please submit your interesting observations to Martin Parker at mparker19@cogeco.ca or phone (705) 745-4750.

November 2015	A late report from mid-November of an American Opossum in the Bailieboro area by Esther Ross via the Drew Monkman Sightings website.
December 28, 2015	Tim Dyson has a sub-adult Golden Eagle (probably 3 rd year) over Cty Road 44 in the vicinity of Quackenbush Provincial Park.
January 1, 2016	On the joint PFN and Ontario Field Naturalists outing, co-lead by Dave Milsom and Matthew Tobey, a total of 41 species of birds were found between Peterborough and Petroglyphs Provincial Park. Highlights were 2 Northern Shovelers on the Lakefield Lagoon; male Ring-necked Duck on Stoney Lake at Viamede; flock of 30 Bohemian Waxwings south of Young's Point; 30+ Evening Grosbeaks and 40+ Pine Siskins at a feeder on the Northey's Bay Road; 3 Red Crossbills , Brown Creepers and a Northern Shrike eating a dragonfly at the entrance to the Petroglyphs Provincial Park; 1 st year Bald Eagle over Stoney Lake; single Snow Bunting , Glaucous and Great Black-backed Gulls at the Peterborough Landfill site; 6 Horned Larks ; 3 flocks of Wild Turkeys and 4 Common Ravens on Scriven Road, and at dusk 3 Eastern Screech-owls and 1 Barred Owl in a woodlot SW of the City. Jerry Ball observed a Peregrine Falcon on Johnson Drive and a Merlin in the Brealey Drive area. Thomas Tamblyn had a Long-tailed Duck on Catchacoma. Martyn Obbard has a Red-bellied Woodpecker on Sumcot Dr., Trent Lakes. Toby Rowland had a Merlin on Mark Street in the City. David Fry had the first Peregrine Falcon on Brock Street in the City. Iain Rayner had 14 Cedar Waxwings in Barnardo Park. A White-throated Sparrow was found by Scott Gibson.
January	Barred Owls have been located by many observers during the month at various locations in the County including Jackson's Park and along the Hastings Trail. Northern Shovelers were being observed during the month at the Lakefield Lagoon and along the Otonabee River by many observers. Observations of Bald Eagles have been reported throughout the month at many locations in the City and County.
Jan 2	Iain Rayner located a Long-eared Owl in a woodlot in the Parkway Corridor west of Hilliard Ave. It was being mobbed by Black-capped Chickadees and American Crows . Lesser Black-backed Gull was spotted on Little Lake by Linda Sunderland and observed by many other observers during the month. Iain Rayner had two Iceland Gulls on Little Lake. Were present for most of period. Snowy Owl along Scriven Road by Linda Sunderland. A Horned Grebe was found on Little Lake by Scott Gibson. The first Common Redpoll was found by Chris Risley along the Northey's Bay Road.
Jan 3	Murray Palmer had a Long-eared Owl in his yard in the west end of the city from 9 to 10 am. It was being mobbed by American Crows. Photographs were taken. Bill Snowden observed 2 Bald Eagles at the southern end of Buckhorn Lake. A female Greater Scaup was found by Alice Domalik & Scott Gibson on Little Lake which was seen during most of the month by many different observers. A Horned Grebe was found by Scott Gibson on Little Lake and last seen on Jan. 7 by Basil Conlin.

Jan 5	Matthew Tobey & Martin Parker had a female Wood Duck within a flock of Mallards on the Otonabee River at the southern end of Park Street. Dave Milsom had a Belted Kingfisher along Thompson Creek in the city.
Jan 7	Male Wood Duck was found on the Otonabee River north of Lock 25 by Bill Crins, and seen regularly during the month by many observers, primarily between Locks 24 and 25. Was associated with a flock of Mallards . Travis Cameron observed an American Kestrel on the Douro 8 th Line.
Jan 8	Ian Sturdee had a flyby of 3 Trumpeter Swans at Cardova Lake. Iain Rayner had a Northern Flicker along Hannah Road near Bailieboro.
Jan 10	Kim Nicholson reported a Snowy Owl sitting on top of a Hydro Pole in the hamlet of Stewart Hall. Seen by others. Iain Rayner had a male White-winged Scoter on Little Lake.
Jan 13	A Peregrine Falcon put on a show at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre where it was observed catching and eating a Rock Pigeon. Photographed by Mike Pineau. Numerous other observations in the city during the balance of the month. Joanne Dubbin observed a Swamp Sparrow in Douro-Dummer Township.
Jan 15	Mike Barker reported up to a dozen Northern Flying Squirrels visiting a friend's feeders near Sand Lake, Buckhorn. The squirrels were soaring in to the feeder from all directions.
Jan 16	Chis Ellingwood spotted a Northern Harrier along Tapley ¼ Line west of Millbrook.
Jan 17	A female Lesser Scaup was reported by Luke Berg & Martin Parker. Was associating with the female Greater Scaup . Andrew Beauchamp spotted a Fox Sparrow off Fifth Line, Ennismore area.
Jan. 19	Bruce Kidd reported that a neighbor photographed a Cooper's Hawk in his farm yard in the Douro area.
Jan 20	Luke Berg had a female Greater Scaup on the Otonabee River between Trent U. and Lakefield. Individual found on Little Lake on Jan. 3 was still present there on this date and for a few days afterwards. Probably two different individuals.
Jan 22	Bill Snowden reported that a Purple Finch arrived at his feeders today at the southern end of Buckhorn Lake, along with a flock of American Tree Sparrows . A Song Sparrow was reported by Basil Conlin from the Trent Rotary Trail.
Jan 23	Michael Gillespie photographed a Mink at his property on David Fife Line, in the Keene area.
Jan 24	Sylvia Cashmore reported a flock of Bohemian Waxwings in the area of Cow Island in Ennismore. Luke Berg found three Eastern Bluebirds on Hannah Road in the Bailieboro area. Iain Rayner found 2 Mute Swans on the Trent River off 5 th of Asphodel, west of Hastings. They have been present since that date and seen by many observers.
Jan 25	Participants of the OFO Young Ornithologists outing in the Peterborough area lead by Dave Milsom and Matthew Tobey recorded 35 species with highlights being 25 Red Crossbills at Petroglyphs Prov. Park, 35 Evening Grosbeaks , 60 Pine Siskins and 3 Purple Finch at a feeder on the Northey's Bay Road, and a total of 8 Bald Eagles (4 near Lock 25, adult on Lake Katchewanooka and 3 on a carcass on Stoney Lake).
Jan 28	Dave Milsom found a Kumlien's Iceland Gull on the ice with Herring Gulls on the Otonabee River at Trent University. Sue Hill had a Red-bellied Woodpecker in Merino Road area off Wallis Drive and seen during February by Drew Monkman.
Jan 29	Luke Berg observed an adult Golden Eagle soaring over the rowing club site on the Trent U. Iain Rayner found an Eastern Bluebird on Hannah Road in the Baillieboro area.
Jan 30	Luke Berg found a Pied-billed Grebe on the Trent River at the end of Drysdale Road, near Hastings.
Jan 31	Sue Paradisis spotted 2 Northern Goshawks in the Donwood area, east of the City. They were being harassed by American Crows . Paradisis also had a flock of Red Crossbills at the entrance to Petroglyphs Provincial Park, and noted scales of cones were scattered along the roadway.

February 1	A female Red-breasted Merganser on Little Lake by Iain Rayner.
Feb 2	Bill Snowden reported the numbers of Purple Finch at his feeders has been increasing, with 6 individuals now present. They are mostly female plumaged birds. During the month of Feb. there were many reports of Purple Finches as they moved southward into the County. Jerry Ball has a Cooper's Hawk and 3 Bald Eagles on Sandy Lake Road in the NE part of the County.
Feb 4	Bill Snowden reported that his Japanese Witch-Hazel was in full bloom and the Snow-drops are showing flower buds. The first Stripped Skunk of the year was observed south of Warsaw by Jane Bremner. Drew Monkman noted the high temperature this date was 12.4 C and midges were flying. Tyler Hoar flushed an adult Golden Eagle off beaver carcasses in the Sandy Lake Pine Barrens north of Havelock.
Feb 4 and 7	Don McLeod observed a Raccoon walking on the ice along the shore of Lower Chemong Lake on Feb 4. On Feb. 7 he found Raccoon tracks on the same path but in the opposite direction. In both cases this activity was likely related to breeding according to McLeod.
Feb 8	Don McLeod found a Star-nosed Mole carcass on his lawn in the lower Chemong Lake area.
Feb 11	Warren Dunlop found 2 Mute Swans on the Trent River at the southern end of Humphries Line. This pair was present on the Trent River in the Hastings area for most of the month.
Feb 12	Jerry Ball had a flock of 300 Snow Buntings along Cty Rd 2 east of Baillieboro.
Feb 13	Roy Burton spotted a Gray Jay with 3 Blue Jays at the Bensford Road Landfill site. A Varied Thrush was observed by Mike Jackson on Sawmill Road near Warsaw. It was a male plumaged bird with a flock of Blue Jays . Jackson reported that the individual had been present for about two weeks.
Feb 20	Janet Dunlop observed a Golden Eagle in the vicinity of Beavermead Park. There was another observation on Feb. 22, probably the same individual, in the Ashburnham Park area by Basil Conlin. Jerry Ball has a Long-tailed Duck on the Otonabee River at Campbelltown Landing.
Feb 24	Marilyn Freeman observed 6 Ring-necked Ducks on the Otonabee River south of Lakefield.
Feb 26	As of this date observers who report on e-bird have observed a total of 81 species of birds this year in Peterborough County.
Feb 28	Highlights of the PFN outing include 50 Common Goldeneye , 2 nd winter Glaucous Gull and 2 Trumpeter Swans between Lock 26 and Lakefield, 50 Common Mergansers at Young's Point, an adult Bald Eagle on a nest on the west side of Katchewanooka Lake, and 1 Bufflehead between Little Lake Cemetery and Beavermead Park. The early migrating ducks are starting to move into the region. Spring is arriving. Dave Milson had a large falcon/hawk fly on Scollard Drive which he identified as a dark phase Gyr Falcon .

Sandhill Cranes, near Warkworth,
December 8th, 2015
~ Submitted by Dave Milsom





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

<input type="radio"/> Under 20	<input type="radio"/> 20-29	<input type="radio"/> 30-39	<input type="radio"/> 40-49	<input type="radio"/> 50-59	<input type="radio"/> 60-69	<input type="radio"/> 70-79	<input type="radio"/> 80< over
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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: _____