

The Orchid

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Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists

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Know • Appreciate • Conserve Nature in All its Forms



Common Loon, Otonabee River at Lock 25, Peterborough, May 27, 2016 ~ Submitted by Dave Milsom

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Welcome New PFN Members!

Shawn & Shannon Loughrey
Chantal & Kirk Collins
Annamarie Beckel
Jim Parker
Sylvia Arsenault & Lloyd Dozois



Eastern Phoebe, Wylie Road at Carden Plain
May 29, 2016 ~ Submitted by Jim Young



Above: Rusty Blackbird, Bridgenorth Trail, April 21
~ Submitted by Emily Pettypiece

Below: Smooth Green Snake, Sandy Lake Road, May 11
~ Submitted by Luke Berg



Coming Events	
<p>Sunday June 5th</p> <p>7:30 am to early afternoon</p> <p>Country Style Old Keene Road at Hwy 7</p>	<p>Alderville First Nation Black Oak Savanna</p> <p>Following a wonderful visit last year, we will again visit this precious surviving example of a once-abundant Ontario habitat (www.alderillesavanna.ca). Up to 40 species at risk have been recorded at this site. It is a great site for butterflies, flowers (including wild lupins) and birds.</p> <p>We will meet at the Country Style (junction of Old Keene Road and Hwy 7) to carpool or, if you know where it is, at the Black Oak Savanna Information Centre at 8467 Northumberland County Rd 18, Roseneath. Visitors are welcome to bring a packed lunch to eat inside or on the deck. The centre provides coffee, tea and spring water.</p>
<p>Wednesday June 8th</p> <p>7:30 pm</p> <p>Camp Kawartha Environment Centre</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting: Ontario's Geological Heritage</p> <p>Our guest speaker is David Webster, Senior Conservation Geologist for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. A geologist for over 30 years, David has worked as a private consultant in hydrogeology, environmental appraisals and mineral exploration. His work has taken him from southern Ontario to Northern Labrador and El Salvador. David will share with us his hands-on awareness of the importance of preserving Ontario's geological heritage.</p>
<p>Saturday June 11th</p> <p>10:00 am to 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Warsaw Caves botanical outing</p> <p>The North American Native Plant Society is hosting a field session at Warsaw Caves Conservation Area. Mike McMurtry will be leading this hike, which represents the first collaboration between the North American Native Plant Society (NANPS) and PFN. We will have the opportunity to learn more about plant communities' interaction with the karst geological landscape at Warsaw, and to meet members of another environmental organization with similar interests.</p> <p>Participation is limited to 5 PFN members and 15 NANPS members. Bring a lunch, suitable clothing, binoculars, and your love of all things herbaceous and woody! Email Janice Keil if interested (jkeil@nanps.org) and contact Mike McMurtry if you wish to carpool (michael.mcmurtry@sympatico.ca).</p>
<p>Saturday June 25th</p> <p>8:00 am to 5:00 pm</p> <p>North parking lot, Riverview Park & Zoo, Peterborough</p>	<p>Dragon's-Mouth, Snake Mouth and Grass Pink</p> <p>These are the descriptive names for the three pink orchids that bloom in the bog around Little Chandos Lake during the last half of June. This trip will focus on these orchids (Arethusa, Rose Pogonia and Calapogon), as well as the other characteristic bog plants. There will be ample opportunities to photograph orchids and other bog plant species. Trip leaders will be Kingdon Baker and Martin Parker.</p> <p>Lunch will be at the Baker's cottage on Chandos Lake; dessert and coffee will be provided! The afternoon will be an orientation outing to the Kawartha Land Trust's Falls Property in the Apsley area.</p> <p>Bring footwear you can get wet, as well as your lunch, water, and camera. Meet at 8:00 am at the north parking lot at the Peterborough Zoo to carpool, or join the group in Apsley at 9:00 am.</p>

Coming Events cont'd

<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday August 27th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:00 am to 4:00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tim Horton's at the Sobey's Plaza, Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough</p>	<p>Shorebirds and Monarchs</p> <p>This outing will journey to Presqu'ile Provincial Park to view the gathering of shorebirds as they make their migration from the Arctic breeding grounds to their wintering areas, primarily in the southern hemisphere. In the fall the birds linger longer than in the spring. We will be visiting the viewing locations at the southern end of the beach to watch the shorebirds and other fall migrants.</p> <p>The fall migrations of Monarch butterflies will also be commencing at this time of the year. Arrangements are being made with Park Staff to conduct a demonstration on Monarch banding! Time will be spent looking for some of the other species of fall butterflies too.</p> <p>Martin Parker and Matthew Tobey will lead this outing. Note that the early departure is to increase the opportunity of seeing shorebirds prior to the birds being disturbed by falcons and people. We will return to Peterborough in the mid-afternoon. Bring a packed lunch, binoculars, camera, and telescope if you have one.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday Sept. 14th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:30 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Camp Kawartha Environment Centre</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting</p> <p>Professor Paul Frost, Trent University, will be the guest speaker at PFN's September monthly meeting. Details to follow in the August/September issue of The Orchid.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday October 12th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:30 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Camp Kawartha Environment Centre</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting: Learning the Plants of the Kawarthas</p> <p>Retired biologist and PFN member Mike McMurtry will discuss the fascinating flora to be found in Peterborough & the Kawarthas.</p>

PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12)


Bee houses at Ecology Park - The PFN Juniors will be at Ecology Park on Sunday June 5th, starting at 2:00 pm. Peterborough GreenUP's Community Bee Keeping Program will be there to teach us about bees, their life cycle, nesting habitats, and how the plants we grow in our gardens can help bees and other local pollinators. Kids are invited to help set up bumble bee huts (and paint signs for them), make a bee house to take home, and get an inside view of a demo bee hive (Note: there are no bees in the demo hive). We'll also explore the gardens to learn about which plants are best for attracting pollinators. Please register using the booking feature on the PFN website peterboroughnature.org, or email pfnjuniors@gmail.com.

Exploring Patterns in Nature - Sunday June 26, starting at 10:15 am at the Camp Kawartha Environment Centre. Our world is filled with beautiful and intricate patterns. Have you ever marveled at the overlapping seeds in a milkweed pod, an unfurling fern, the veins in a leaf, or the scales of a pine cone? What about rippled sand at the beach or frost on a window? What are some of your favourite patterns in nature? We hope you will join us at this photography workshop for kids. We will look for patterns together through games and activities and learn some photography tips from our talented volunteers. Additional details are provided on the PFN website. Please register using the booking feature on peterboroughnature.org, or email pfnjuniors@gmail.com.

Announcing the Peterborough Junior Field Naturalists Summer Photo Contest! Junior PFN members between the ages of 5 and 12 are invited to register for the summer photo contest. Registration instructions and full contest details are provided on the [Juniors page](#) of the PFN website. The theme of the contest is 'Patterns in Nature'. Prizes for the winning photographers have been generously donated by **Christensen Fine Art** and **The Toy Shop of Peterborough**!

Other Events of Interest	
<p>Friday June 3rd</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>Guest Services Building, Riverview Park & Zoo</p>	<p>Peterborough Astronomical Association monthly meeting</p> <p>For more information on their monthly meetings (June is "NANUK cases by Mark Nelson"), and other upcoming events, please visit www.peterboroughastronomy.com.</p>
<p>Fourth Wednesday of each month</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>Lion's Centre 347 Burnham Street, Peterborough</p>	<p>Peterborough Horticultural Society monthly meeting</p> <p>Join us at 6:30 pm for socializing, with the meeting starting at 7:00 pm. For more information visit www.peterboroughhort.com</p> <p>June 22 - Vicki Taylor Scott - "Cheap and Cheerful Gardening"</p> <p>September 28 - Gifts from the Garden Demonstrations</p> <p>October 26 - Gail & Todd Grainger, owners of Highland Garlic, "All about Garlic"</p> <p>November 23 - David Beresford, Trent Biology Professor, "Bugs in the Garden"</p>
<p>Saturday June 11th</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>Thicksons Woods, Whitby</p>	<p>Dog-strangling vine removal at Thicksons Woods</p> <p>Rain Date: Sunday June 12th. Meet at the gates to the meadow along Thickson Road at 8:00 am. We are starting early since the sun rises shortly after 5:00 am on these longest days of the year, and it can get hot by mid-morning. Bring water, snacks, sunscreen, a small, strong, sharpened round-mouthed spade, perhaps a lawn chair, and determination to defeat this unwanted intruder! Visit www.thicksonwoods.com for more information.</p> <p>Swallow-wort or dog-strangling vine is related to milkweed. However, monarch larvae hatched from eggs laid on the plant aren't able to survive feeding on its leaves. So not only does the plant proliferate to choke out desirable native plants, resulting in an impenetrable monoculture, it's a hazard to the breeding success of monarchs already under stress in many other ways.</p>
<p>Saturday June 18th</p> <p>11:00 am to 12:00 pm</p> <p>Ecology Park, Peterborough</p>	<p>'Open Hive!' at Peterborough GreenUP</p> <p>Interested in honeybees? Open Hive is a newcomer beekeeping drop-in program to explore the wonders of beekeeping and pollination ecology. All equipment will be provided. Join us and see what beekeeping is all about! For more details visit www.greenup.on.ca/events/openhive.</p>
<p>Monday July 4th to Friday July 8th</p> <p>Frost Campus, Fleming College, Lindsay</p>	<p>Nature Explorer Summer Camp at Fleming College</p> <p>Fleming College's Frost Campus is offering a unique camp experience for children aged 7 to 10 years. Activities include pollinators, bugs, weather, wildlife, wilderness skills, gardening, soils, rocks, water, aquatic life, and more! For details visit http://frostcampus.wix.com/naturecamp.</p>
<p>Saturday July 16th</p> <p>George Street and Charlotte Street, Peterborough</p>	<p>Peterborough Pulse returns!</p> <p>For one fun-filled day Peterborough Pulse will be transforming the downtown core from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. Come out and experience first-hand the 'open streets phenomenon' as we temporarily liberate George and Charlotte Street for walking, bicycling, dancing, playing, and socializing! For more information visit www.ptbopulse.com.</p>

Other Events of Interest cont'd

<p>Friday August 12th</p> <p>8:30 pm until early hours of August 13th</p> <p>Armour Hill, Ashburnham Memorial Park, Peterborough</p>	<p>2016 Perseid Meteor Shower</p> <p>Come join the Peterborough Astronomical Association (PAA) on Friday, August 12th to view the annual Perseid Meteor Shower. As always, this event is free and open to the public and fun for all ages. One night of the year worth staying awake! Although optical aids are not needed or recommended for the meteor shower, members of the PAA will have telescopes set up to view other wonders of the night sky.</p> <p>Weather permitting, catch a glimpse of Mars, Saturn, Jupiter, Venus and maybe even Mercury will be visible in the early evening after sunset, along with the Moon and many star clusters and nebulae that may be visible as the evening progresses. The PAA will take over the entire parking lot on top of the hill. To promote safety for the members and the public, Armour Hill will be closed to vehicular traffic. Parking will be available in the lower lot opposite the Peterborough Museum and Archives. Come dressed and prepared to spend time outside. See you there and keep looking up!</p> <p>This is a weather-dependent event. If the skies are cloudy and precipitating, the event will be canceled that evening. For more information contact Jamie Morales, PAA President at 705-748-2038 or visit www.peterboroughastronomy.com.</p>
<p>September 13th to 16th or September 25th to 30th or October 4th to 7th</p>	<p>2016 Fabulous Fall Fungi Workshops</p> <p>Now in its 7th year, these stimulating, hands-on workshops explore the impressive diversity of mushrooms and other fungi found in Southern Ontario. Suitable for all levels. Maximum of 12 individuals per workshop.</p> <p>This year there is a choice between 3-day and 5-days sessions. Location: Queen's University Biological Station. Register early to avoid disappointment (there are waiting lists each year). Details at www.queensu.ca/qubs/events-and-outreach.</p> 
<p>Saturday September 17th</p> <p>9:00 am to 3:30 pm</p> <p>Thicksons Woods, Whitby</p>	<p>Birds, Beavers & Butterflies Nature Festival</p> <p>This year we are very excited to announce that two of the most popular attractions, missing last year, are expected to be back! Amazing magician Warren Toaze will confound and astound one and all with his sleight of hand. Geologist Norbert Woerns will share his extensive knowledge of rocks and minerals with the budding rock hounds at this fall's festival. Of course there will be many other exciting things to experience in the out-of-doors. Visit www.thicksonswoods.com for more information.</p>

Orchid submissions are encouraged!

Submission deadline for the August/September issue is **Wednesday, August 17th**.

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.

PFN Board of Directors				Other Volunteers		
President	Lynn Smith	smithfam@nexicom.net	944-5599	Membership Secretary	Jim Young	760-9397
Vice President	Kim Zippel	kimzippel@nexicom.net	740-0587	Orchid Editor	Marla Williams 874-5653 orchid@peterboroughnature.org	
Secretary	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 pfnjuniors@gmail.com	
Program (indoor)	Phil Shaw	pshaw78@hotmail.com	874-1688	Ecology Park Feeders	JB Jaboor, Don Finigan	
Program (indoor)	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	
Harper Park, Stewardship	Rene Gareau	rene.gareau@sympatico.ca	741-4560	Advocacy Committee	Jim Cashmore, Jim Young, Martin Parker, Ted Vale, Marilyn Hubley	
Webmaster	Chris Gooderham	webmaster@peterboroughnature.org	740-2081	Peterborough Christmas Bird Count	Martin Parker	
Ontario Nature Rep	Ted Vale	tedandmarion@sympatico.ca	741-3641	Peterborough Butterfly Count	Jerry Ball	
Special Projects	Marilyn Hubley	maykeema@hotmail.com	760-9378	Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count	Colin Jones	
Peterborough Field Naturalists PO Box 1532, Peterborough ON K9J 7H7						

PFN Volunteer Corner



1. Volunteers still needed at the Buckhorn Fine Art Festival! Please consider sharing your time.

Saturday, August 13th and Sunday, August 14th: The Buckhorn Fine Art Festival was named one of the Top 100 festivals of distinction for the 9th year in a row! Over 85 artists showcase their work in a picturesque woodland garden setting with eleven permanent gallery buildings. There is art for sale, special interest displays, a children's ARTivity Zone, culinary delights and performances by local musicians.

Check out the website at <http://www.buckhornfineart.com/festival-info/>. For just a few hours of volunteering you will have the opportunity to explore the festival free of charge! Please contact Rene Gareau to volunteer at the PFN display booth; rene.gareau@sympatico.ca or 705-741-4560.



PFN Volunteer Corner cont'd

2. Or...lend your creative talent to help design a new PFN display!

Are you looking for an outlet for your artistic creativity? If so, the PFN needs you! The PFN Board wishes to update, upgrade and otherwise improve the Club's current display. We are searching for a Committee willing to explore options (such as a vertical banner, etc.). If the idea of helping to create a new PFN display appeals to you, then please allow your creative juices to flow and keep us posted on your progress!

Sound like fun? We would love to start next year's events with a 'fresh, new look'. Please contact Lynn Smith (smithfam@nexicom.net or 705-944-5599) if you are interested in this worthwhile project.



Frog & toad sign at Miller Creek recently replaced Submitted by Martin Parker

The existing pathway sign, describing the frog and toad species found at the Miller Creek Wildlife Management Area, has been showing the effects of weathering. Some of the lettering had unfortunately become illegible.

The PFN Board authorized the replacement of this sign with a new one, utilizing part of this year's annual income from the PFN Legacy Fund, established from the generous bequest by the late Rhea Bringeman. The

income from this Fund, which is managed as an endowment fund by the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough, permits the PFN to undertake special initiatives. The new sign was kindly erected by Brian Wales.

PFN Trip Report: Sparrows and other surprises on the Oak Ridges Moraine

Article and photos submitted by Don McLeod

A hardy group of 12 PFN members gathered together on the morning of Sunday, May 15th for some extreme birding! Led by Lynn Smith and Kim Clark, the group faced adverse conditions with cloud, wind, rain and snow, yet still managed to observe 164 birds from 47 species. Most of the observations were from the Oak Ridges Moraine near Bethany and conducted along quiet country roads. There was an opportune break mid-morning courtesy of Kim Clark as we visited her home for a break and some bird watching at her amazing array of bird feeders. A big thanks goes out to both Lynn and Kim for this interesting bird outing.



Above right:
Eastern Bluebird

Right:
Bobolink



From the Archives – Highlights from 1990

Submitted by Lynn Smith, prepared for the 75th Anniversary of the PFN

"The 50th Anniversary was celebrated with a talk by Larry & Kay McKeever on owls and their work at the Owl Research & Rehabilitation Foundation. Held at the Red Oak Inn. Tickets \$5.00.

Many Projects Undertaken:

- Preservation of Loggerhead Marsh
- Miller Creek improvements
- Osprey nest platforms
- Peterborough Conservation Strategy – organizers and field workers were needed to prepare a detailed inventory of green areas in Peterborough
- PFN helped with Red-Shouldered Hawk survey. They brought in hawks by using a tape recording of its calls.

Bluebird report given by Don Porter. 107 bluebird boxes were erected on local farms, mostly in the Millbrook area. 117 young were fledged. Don received the Lola Leach Award for his Bluebird work.

Viewing tower completed at Miller Creek Wildlife Management Area. Thanks to Terry Hunter, Len Lockwood, Ted Nugent, Don White, Brian Pearce, Tom Atkinson, Stan Reiten, Gus Hill, Del Burke, Clayton Vardy and Jim Dunshire."

Editor's note:

Efforts continue to conserve Loggerhead Marsh. Trail maintenance is still ongoing at Miller Creek Wildlife Management Area. The Peterborough Conservation Strategy was completed in 1996 with the issuance of the report 'Peterborough Natural Areas Strategy' and efforts continue to have the key areas included and recognized in the City's Official Plan. Club volunteers are still making and erecting bird boxes for bluebirds and other species. The viewing tower at Miller Creek is still being enjoyed by visitors to this management area.

The Killer In The Window

Submitted by Murray Palmer



When I saw the big hawk I panicked, and flew to where I saw sky,
But I slammed into a hard, clear surface - it seemed worth a try.
I saw forms of trees and other things like those in the yard;
See the powder down print I made where I struck so hard!
The hawk braked some distance behind, and swiftly turned around;
Something in the man-nest spooked him, alerted by the sound.
Luckily I regained my spinning senses, and flew away in a daze ...
Careful now; the hawks have learned to use windows in deadly ways.
Thinking they could enter more yard or a passage to another place,
Nearly a billion birds killed a year are not easy to replace.
Of all the deaths we suffer, window collisions are the most serious.
Now some windows look different, making them less deleterious.
Place feeders at eighteen inches or less away so birds gain little speed
Before they hit; closing blinds, slats opened, may be all they need.
Cover panes with decals, apply two-inch grids of patterned tape
That birds can recognize as impassable, and needless death escape.
Just be sure to make bare spaces small enough to deter our flight.
Keep your cats indoors, and do all you can to make our future bright.

Murray Palmer, 2016

PFN Trip Report: Wildflower ID Workshop on the Lady Eaton Drumlin at Trent University

Submitted by Lynn Smith; Photos submitted by Kim Zippel

What better way to begin a Saturday morning of a long weekend than by enjoying homemade rhubarb danish rolls in the company of fellow botany enthusiasts? The treat was absolutely delicious and much appreciated by the twelve people who attended the plant identification workshop at Trent University, led by Susan Chow and Kim Zippel on May 14th. The workshop began in the biology lab where we were introduced to the Newcomb's Wildflower Guide (my next purchase at the bookstore) as well as to Susan's two-foot tall, detailed flower model of a plant's "naughty parts" (see photo below).



Susan gave us a 30-minute overview of "everything there is to know about wildflower ID, but were afraid to ask", and then we set out for the Lady Eaton Drumlin. The drumlin was covered with a gorgeous blanket of white trilliums and many more spring ephemerals. Susan pointed out specific wildflowers and challenged us to identify them. With Newcomb's field guide in hand we started to use the key. My, oh my ... it's going to require some practice! Susan and Kim patiently answered questions and enlightened us on the finer points of Newcomb's key to plant identification.

By the end of the morning we had gained confidence in using the key to identify wildflowers, enjoyed a walk on Lady Eaton Drumlin, socialized with a very engaging group, and even managed to identify some birdsong.



We may need a sequel! Many thanks to Susan and Kim for a delightful morning.

Earth Day cleanup in Jackson Park

Submitted by Phil Shaw

It was a beautiful sunny Saturday morning, April 23rd. I was on "daddy duty" with my energetic and enthusiastic 2 year-old daughter Margaret. Otonabee Conservation was hosting an Earth Day clean-up event in Jackson Park that day, and I thought it a great opportunity for the whole family to get some fresh air and exercise. My mother provided transportation to Jackson Park. At the playground among the towering White Pine trees, Margaret helped me pick up a few small pieces of plastic candy wrappers and the odd Tim Hortons cup and lid. Ironically Tim Hortons was one of the sponsors of this event!

Under the watchful eye of Nanna, Margaret played enthusiastically on the playground with the other children while I went off into the park to collect litter and recyclables with leather gardening glove on hand.

Scouting for litter in Jackson Park allowed me to explore many secluded outcrops of white cedars and thickets of buckthorn. In this particular area the litter consisted primarily of plastic bags, plastic water bottles, and a multitude of fast food wrappers. Along the chainlink fence lines by the apartments that border Jackson Park I found a depressing collection of household garbage, which included plastic children's toys, large steel playground frames, brooms, broken furniture, and stuffed toys.

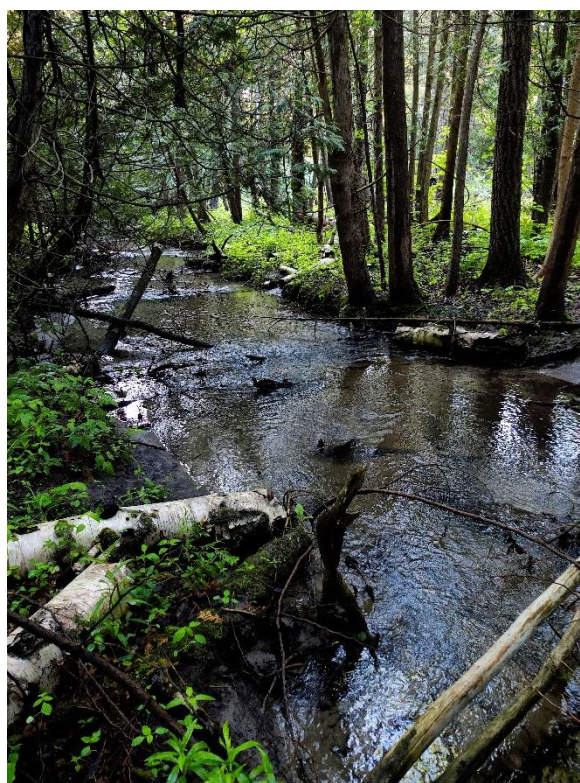
The proliferation of litter (large and small) throughout Jackson Park has inspired me to participate in other spring and summer cleanup events, and to continue personal habits such as packing a reusable drinking flask in my backpack, and tote some reusable shopping bags. I think Jimmy Carter summed up our garbage and waste problem when he said: "Solid wastes are the discarded leftovers of our advanced consumer society. This growing mountain of garbage and trash represents not only an attitude of indifference toward valuable natural resources, but also a serious economic and public health problem."

In most cases the natural environment cycles "wastes" within ecosystems, whereby the byproduct of one process may provide a resource or sustenance to something else. In contrast, accumulations of garbage and litter are human-caused problems. What are the best human-made solutions?

Scout's S.O.S. Message To You

Submitted by Murray Palmer

Hey, you! It's me, under the log in this stream.
 I know you can see me if only you'd dream.
 My lateral line senses bad vibes of mischief afin
 That'll spell the end of this home we fish live in.
 I'd be most pleased if you would call me Scout.
 I'm really a char, but most call me a brook trout.
 We need the coldest, cleanest water in order to survive.
 High levels of oxygen and prey help us to thrive.
 We're an indicator species, showing the water is pure;
 Water pollution is impossible for us to endure.
 What pollution smells and tastes like, I'd rather not know,
 But I'd get very sick and die ... lose my colourful glow.
 Time was when your ancestors wanted a land of milk and honey;
 Now all some people think about is getting more money.
 And it appears they'll do it on the backs of the poor gambling-
 addicted.
 Crime, prostitution, and drug use will likely increase as
 predicted.
 They want to desecrate good earth to which Harper Park is
 adjacent
 To construct a gambling casino, but don't be complacent!
 Once the casino is built, more approved 'development' will
 spread.
 What the heck, they'll say, the land's changed now; let's push
 ahead!
 Meanwhile, Harper Park becomes polluted; aquatic animals
 disappear,
 And those living on land, and in the air will soon follow, I fear.
 I need all of you to help me find ways to Save Our Stream;
 Please enlist your peers to put an end to this deadly scheme.
 Don't wait until election time to make your wishes known,
 For by then the bad seeds of change will already be sown.
 Tell your errant city councillors to take their casino and shove it,
 That you want Harper Park left to Nature because you so love it!



Harper Park, June 2013

~ Courtesy of Craig Bogden

Scout, via Murray Palmer, 2016

PFN Juniors' Report: Yellow Fish Road

Submitted by Lara Griffin

Thank you to the Junior Naturalists who helped to paint yellow fish on the storm drains at the Riverview Park and Zoo! Your hard work will serve as a reminder to all that when harmful substances go down storm drains, these substances harm aquatic species that depend on clean water. Otonabee Conservation started the evening with an orientation to the Yellow Fish Road program to teach us about watersheds, where rainwater goes after a storm in an urban environment, where our tap water comes from, and why we need to protect local water quality. Thank you to the staff at Otonabee Conservation for leading us in this fun volunteer opportunity!



The Yellow Fish Road is a nation-wide environmental education program designed and managed by Trout Unlimited Canada. The goal is to help Canadians understand that storm drains are the doorways to our rivers, lakes and streams. Preventing pollutants from entering our storm drains is critical to protecting and improving our watersheds, water quality and aquatic habitat. For more info on the program visit <http://www.yellowfishroad.org>.

Nothing Part Three: Season of the Saturniidae

Submitted by Basil Conlin

One of the best times to go nothing in the Kawarthas is late May and early June. This is the season of the saturniidae, the giant silk moths. Our local saturniid diversity includes several well-known, exotic-looking and iconic species. Peterborough County is home to nine species of saturniids which are broken down into three subfamilies; the Ceratocampinae or royal silk moths which include the pine imperial moth (*Eacles imperialis pini*), rosy maple moth (*Dryocampa rubicunda*), and pink striped oak worm moth (*Anisota virgiansis*); the Hemileucinae or buck moths which include the lo moth (*Automeris io*); and the Saturniinae or giant silkworm moths which include the familiar Polyphemus moth (*Antheraea polyphemus*), Luna moth (*Actias luna*), which possesses long hind wing 'tails' in order to confuse bat sonar (**photo, below left**, June 5th, 2015 by Marla Williams), Cecropia moth (*Hyalophora cecropia*), Columbia moth (*Hyalophora columbia*), and Prometheus moth (*Callosamia promethean*).

Late May into early-mid June is the best time to see our saturniids, and many will come to lights in small numbers.



Occasionally moths turn up in parking lots, gardens, and urban parks at this time of year, seemingly from out of nowhere. Eggs are laid in June. Larvae feed on a variety of deciduous trees and occasionally on pines. Many species are equally as captivating as larvae as they are as adults. The caterpillars become pupae in late summer and fall. Moths of the saturniinae subfamily construct a cocoon out of silk and available debris such as leaves in a dark secluded area, either in a bush or under a pile of leaves (a good reason not to burn your leaves in the fall!). Imperial moths don't construct a cocoon but pupate in underground burrows. Lo moths build thin cocoons and bury themselves under the leaves of their host plant. The pupa then

overwinters in this state, and in summer finally emerges as an adult.

Adults do not feed and emerge without a mouth or digestive tract. They exist solely to mate and die within a few days from either exhaustion or predation. Moths face many threats along their journey such as parasitism from wasps and tachinid flies, and predation from a number of species during their life time; birds and squirrels eat them as larvae, woodpeckers and mice get the pupae during the winter, and bats and birds eat the adults. Saturniids, particularly the imperial moth and lo moth, have suffered declines across their range in North America, due to a number of factors. Threats include invasive parasitic wasps, particulate pollution, pesticide use, light pollution which interferes with their navigation and causes moths to be stranded in the open and vulnerable to predators, and loss

of habitat. While some species are in decline others, such as the Cecropia moth, seem to be increasingly common as trees and shrubs in suburban gardens begin to mature and provide ample habitat.

Between March 16th and June 2nd of this year I have collected observations on 152 species in 19 families in one location on the edge of Peterborough. By August that number will hopefully have doubled. I hope you get out to some lights and experience 'the dark side' of naturalism for yourself, as there is always something new to see! For identification help, the Moth Photographers Group (<http://mothphotographersgroup.msstate.edu/>) is a great place to start. Happy mothing!



Cecropia Moth, Peterborough,
May 27th, by Basil Conlin

Bird observations needed for Harper Park **Submitted by Martin Parker**

Harper Park, in the southwest corner of the City of Peterborough, is an area of concern for the Peterborough Field Naturalists. Its importance was identified in 'Peterborough Natural Areas Strategy, Final Report, September 1996'. This report was initiated by the Peterborough Field Naturalists and involved several other organizations including the Eco-Council of Peterborough, City of Peterborough, Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce, Trent-Severn Waterway, Peterborough Home Builders Association, Ministry of Natural Resources, Otonabee Region Conservation Authority, and the Trent University Natural Areas Committee.

Additional information on the natural history of the area known as Harper Park will complement the continuing evaluation and monitoring of natural systems in the park, as well as the adjacent lands which comprise the Byersville Creek system.

In order to gather additional information on the birds of Harper Park, PFN member Matthew Tobey has entered the bird information collected by various consultants into 'eBird', a central database operated by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology with Bird Studies Canada. This data, together with observations made by PFN members visiting the park, helps to create an understanding of the bird life in Harper Park throughout the year. A short-term survey conducted by a consultant over the span of two days does not include many of the species seen by members and others.

If you have bird observations from Harper Park, your information is valuable and needs to be added to the existing database on eBird. Checklists and observation reports from the Harper Park area can be submitted to Matthew Tobey (matthewtobey@trentu.ca) or Martin Parker (mparker19@cogeco.ca) and they will be added to the eBird database. Observations from all times of the year are welcomed. If you already have an eBird account then your records can be easily shared with the Harper Park account. Contact Martin for additional details.

If you are looking for an area to visit for a short nature walk, consider Harper Park and please submit your observations!

One can view the existing data on Harper Park by visiting the eBird Canada website (www.ebird.org) and then click on the 'Explore Data' tab. Type in Peterborough -- Harper Park under 'Hotspot' and the data submitted to date will be displayed.

Hey PFN members! The popular and engaging 'Sunday Morning Wildlife Walks' will resume on Sunday, September 4th. More details in the August/September issue of The Orchid.



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.

May	A very untypical May with below-average temperatures during the first two weeks of the month. There was snow in the air in the northern end of Peterborough County on May 14. The last weekend of the month included a heat wave with daytime temperatures above 30 degrees Celsius.
FOY	First of Year – first report of this species this year on e-bird. According to approved e-Bird database 64 species of birds were recorded for the first time this year in the county from April 28 to May 29, for a total of 211 so far this year.
April 29	Sean Smith reported that Broad-winged Hawk & Blue-winged Teal were at the Lakefield Lagoon and Northern Waterthrush was along the de Pencier Trail at the Trent Nature Areas. Daniel Williams had a Northern Goshawk at the Lakefield Lagoon.
April 30	Sean Smith found 2 Red-bellied Woodpeckers on Mervin Line towards the river, a pair of Wood Ducks investigating a nest hole and a Cabbage White (butterfly) on the trail near TASS. A Least Sandpiper was found at the Lakefield Lagoon by Daniel Williams. FOY Yellow Warbler by Donald Sutherland, and Green Heron by Chris Risley.
May 1	Iain Rayner found a Least Bittern in the Sawyer Creek Wetland (near Lock 25). The participants of the PFN Sunday walk with Chris Risley found a total of 48 species of birds including 2 Common Loons , 1 Sandhill Crane , 1 Gray Catbird , 2 Brown Thrashers , and 2 Northern Waterthrush . Scott McKinley had 10+ Rusty Blackbirds east of Atchison Road on the Rotary Trail, along with 2 Palm Warblers and 2 Yellow-rumped Warblers near Lily Lake. FOY Baltimore Oriole by Matthew Tobey, Black-throated Green Warbler by Basil Conlin, Gray Catbird by Chris Risley and Solitary Sandpiper by Mathew Gavin.
May 2	FOY White-crowned Sparrow by Jeff Stewart, Common Yellowthroat by Greg Pulham, Least Sandpiper by Basil Conlin, and Nashville Warbler by Iain Rayner.
May 3	FOY Blackburnian Warbler by Matthew Gavin, Warbling Vireo by Bill Crins, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak by Donald Sutherland.
May 4	FOY Eastern Kingbird by Warren Dunlop, Veery by Matthew Tobey, Ovenbird & Magnolia Warbler by Nick McKay, Chimney Swift & Great Crested Flycatcher by Iain Rayner, Bobolink by Donald Sutherland, Wood Thrush & American Redstart by Andrew Jobes. Donald McLeod had a Five-lined Skink at the Kawartha Highlands Park Signature Site.
May 5	FOY Yellow-throated Vireo by Basil Conlin, Eastern Whip-poor-will , Chestnut-sided Warbler , & Least Flycatcher by Mathew Tobey, Black Tern by Warren Dunlop, Cliff Swallow , Scarlet Tanager by Luke Berg, Black-throated Blue Warbler by Iain Rayner and Marsh Wren by Paul Frost.
May 6	David Beaucage-Johnson reported to Drew Monkman that he observed a bird he identified as a Whooping Crane flying from the direction of Katchewanooka Lake and heading in the direction of Fenelon Falls. He noted it was a large white bird with the black limited to the primaries. The legs were visibly long and the neck was white. David noted that three were reported in the Almonte area on April 24, according to the Ottawa Field Naturalists. The information was reviewed by Donald Sutherland and he stated it was probably from the eastern introduction of this species in Wisconsin. FOY Least Bittern by Basil Conlin.
May 7	FOY Grasshopper Sparrow by Donald Sutherland, Red-eyed Vireo by Travis Cameron, and American Pipit by Iain Rayner.
May 8	FOY Ruby-throated Hummingbird by Donald Sutherland.

May 9	The Sunday walk led by Scott McKinlay concentrated on the Cavan Swamp area and the participants observed a total of 46 species including Solitary Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Winter Wren, Black-and-White & Yellow Warblers, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Waterthrush, Eastern Towhee, Rose-breasted Grosbeak & Rusty Blackbird . Scott noted the warblers were not singing much. Daniel Williams found a Redhead on the Lakefield Lagoon and seen by others until May 25.
May 10	Basil Conlin reported an Orchard Oriole at the Harold Town Conservation Area. FOY Lincoln's Sparrow by Dan Chronowic, Cape May Warbler by Bill Crins, Eastern Wood Peewee by David Le Gros and Northern Parula by Iain Rayner. Bill Snowden reported the first Baltimore Oriole arrived today at his feeder in Ennismore area.
May 11	Luke Berg observed a flock of 52 Brant flying over Sandy Lake Road area north of Havelock. He butterflied the area and found 2 Chryxus Arctic , 5 Northern Spring Azure , 1 Henry's Elfin , 2 Brown Elfin , 1 Eastern Comma , 5 Eastern Pine Elfin , 6 Hoary Elfin , 3 Olympia Marble & 1 Dreamy Duskywing (9 species). He also had 1 Ebony Boghaunter (dragonfly), 1 Smooth Green Snake and 1 Blanding's Turtle . Warren Dunlop had a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher along Mervin Line. Luke Berg had 3 Olympia Marble on Devils 4 Mile Road off Cty Rd 46 north of Havelock. Rene Gareau at Herkimer Point on Rice Lake had a Barred Owl , 3 Scarlet Tanager , 2 Great Crested Flycatchers , and a Yellow Warbler . Marie Dechesneau reported the Peregrine Falcon is at the nest site in the north end of the County. John Fautley reported Caspian Terns on a rock in the river opposite Peterborough Manor. FOY Swainson's Thrush, Golden-winged Warbler , and Wilson's Warbler by Luke Berg.
May 12	Blue-winged Warbler and early Mourning Warbler and in Millbrook by Scott Gibson. Scott also had a Clay-colored Sparrow along Jones Quarter Line. FOY Philadelphia Vireo by Iain Rayner, Tennessee Warbler by Daniel Williams, and Indigo Bunting by Luke Berg.
May 13	Iain Rayner had 18 Brant , 19 White-winged Scoters , and 1 Bonaparte's Gull off Pengelly Point on Rice Lake. David Swales had a Golden-winged Warbler, Yellow Warbler & Baltimore Oriole in his crabapple tree in the west end of the City. FOY Bay-breasted and Canada Warbler by Thomas Tambly.
May 14	Murray Palmer reported a Rose-breasted Grosbeak in his yard in the west end of the City. Several other reports were received around this time of this species visiting feeders. Christine Coles reported an Indigo Bunting visiting her feeder for about 30 minutes.
May 16	2 Orchard Orioles were reported along the Lang-to-Hastings Trail between Redmond Line and Drummond Line.
May 17	Enid Mallory reported that the field along the roads west of Highway 7 were abundant with Bobolinks, Eastern Meadowlarks, Savannah Sparrows, Eastern Kingbirds , and 2 Brown Thrashers . There were several Baltimore Orioles in one shrub. A Lesser Scaup was spotted on the Otonabee River between Lock 23 and 24 and another 7 on the Lakefield Lagoon by Bill Crins, Martin Parker, Bob Prentice and Alan Ingram. The individuals on the lagoon remained until May 22 and were seen by many observers. Ruddy Duck still present on the Lakefield Lagoon until at least May 19 by Bill Crins and others. Basil Conlin and Luke Berg reported a Cerulean Warbler at the Harold Town CA. FOY Willow Flycatcher and Orange-crowned Warbler by Luke Berg, and Sedge Wren and Mourning Warbler by Paul Frost. Along Charlie Allan Road in Trent Lakes Luke Berg had 1 Eastern Comma & 1 West Virginia White (butterflies).
May 17	Jerry Ball on a log in a pond on the Galloway-Cavendish Forest Access Road had 3 Blanding's Turtles , 1 Snapping Turtle and 3 Painted Turtles . The Blanding's was the largest he had seen as it was larger than the Snapping Turtle.

May 18	Gord and Enid Mallory observed a Veery on their lawn near Lily Lake. A Northern Mockingbird was found on Concession 8 Swamp by Brad Toms. FOY Upland Sandpiper by Mike Burrell, Black-billed Cuckoo , Common Nighthawk , Semipalmated Plover by Donald Sutherland and Olive-sided Flycatcher by Iain Rayner.
May 20	FOY Alder Flycatcher by Colin Jones. On Sandy Lake Road Jerry Ball had 1 Red Fox and 1 Five-lined Skink .
May 21	A male Wilson's Phalarope was found on the Lakefield Lagoon by Bill Crins and spotted by many other observers. FOY Semipalmated Sandpiper by Donald Sutherland.
May 23	Sue Sauve found a Red-headed Woodpecker along Hannah Road. Luke Berg & Matthew Tobey on Hubble Road, east of Stoney Lake, had 1 Red Admiral , 1 Clouded Sulphur , 1 Common Road-side Skipper , 1 Mourning Cloak , 6 Northern Spring Azure , 3 Canadian Tiger Swallowtail , 20 Juvenal's Duskywing & 3 Columbine Duskywing . On Sandy Lake Road they found 2 Chryxus Arctic 3 Pearl Crescent , 3 Eastern Pine Elfin , 5 Brown Elfin , 3 Hoary Elfin , 10 Canadian Tiger Swallowtail , 25 Juvenal's Duskywing , 14 Northern Spring Azure , 2 Clouded Sulphur , 3 Olympia Marble , 1 Common Road-side Skipper , 3 Dreamy Duskywing , 1 Mourning Cloak , and 4 Columbine Duskywing . They also had three Moose including a cow with a calf, and 3 Ebony Boghaunters (dragonfly). In the Sandy Lake Road area Jerry Ball had 1 Blue-winged Warbler and 1 Five-lined Skink .
May 24	Luke Berg had an Orange-crowned Warbler on the Rotary Trail at Trent University.
May 25	Matthew Tobey had an Orange-crowned Warbler in the SW corner of the city. A Cerulean Warbler was observed on Deer Bay Reach Road by Iain Rayner and Matthew Gavin.
May 26	FOY Yellow-bellied Flycatcher by Joshua Vandermeulen. On the Lang-to-Hastings Trail between Cameron Line and County Road 39 Jerry Ball had Alder Flycatchers , Grasshopper Sparrows , and 5 blooming Yellow Lady's-slippers .
May 28	Along Sandy Lake Road Jerry Ball had an Indian Skipper .
May 30	On the Lang-to-Hastings Trail from Cameron Line to Blezard Line Gerry Ball & Ken Morrison had 2 Common Ringlets , 4 Northern Crescent , 3 Tawny-edged Skipper , 1 Giant Swallowtail , 1 Black Swallowtail , 2 Harvesters , 4 Hobomok Skipper , 3 Arctic Skipper , 1 Silver-spotted Skipper , and 1 Monarch . There was also one Mink .

On and off the beaten path...



Left to right:

- Blanding's Turtle, Sandy Lake Road, May 11, Luke Berg
- Whimbrels, Presqu'île Prov. Park, May 25, Dave Milsom
- American Redstart, Trans Canada Trail at Old Keene Road, May 19, Murray Palmer
- Moose Calf, Sandy Lake Road, May 23, Luke Berg



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:	Email(s):
		<input type="radio"/> snail mail <input type="radio"/> e-mail <input type="radio"/> both please	

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: _____