

The Orchid



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Know • Appreciate • Conserve Nature in All Its Forms



Gray Treefrogs, newly transformed from the tadpole stage, in Peterborough yard in July.
This frog species can change colour from gray to green to match the background.

Photo submitted by Rene Gareau.

Inside: Ballyduff and Stony Lake Outing Reports
Results of Petroglyph's Butterfly Count
Wildlife Health Tracker and Bumble Bee Count
Ontario Nature updates on Wetland Conservation Strategy and Pesticides

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Welcome new PFN members!

Katherine Petrie
Margaret Berube
junior Sam McGuinness Prowse
Pete Davis
Robert Gibson



Male Dickcissel seen north of Fowler's Corners on July 12. Photo submitted by Enid Mallory



Loon at Lock 25 on June 9. Submitted by Dave Milsom



Photo of Snowberry Clearwing moth taken by Rene Gareau June 31.

PFN Coming Events																			
<p>Sundays Sept. 3 to Oct. 29 8 AM</p>	<p>Sunday Morning Wildlife Outings</p> <p>Our autumnal season of Sunday morning wildlife outings will start on September 3. Unless otherwise advertised (check October's Orchid for any changes), the outings will begin at Peterborough Zoo parking lot on Water Street at 8.00am. From the zoo, participants will carpool to local sites for bird watching and other wildlife encounters. You should 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. Accessibility: These outings normally involve easy to moderate walking.</p> <p>Outings will be led by the following:</p> <table> <tr> <td>September 3</td><td>Jerry Ball</td></tr> <tr> <td>September 10</td><td>Lynn Smith</td></tr> <tr> <td>September 17</td><td>Drew Monkman</td></tr> <tr> <td>September 24</td><td>Scott McKinlay – see separate entry</td></tr> <tr> <td>October 1</td><td>Don McLeod – see separate entry</td></tr> <tr> <td>October 8</td><td>Martin Parker and Bruce Kidd</td></tr> <tr> <td>October 15</td><td>Chris Risley</td></tr> <tr> <td>October 22</td><td>Dave Milsom</td></tr> <tr> <td>October 29</td><td>Jerry Ball</td></tr> </table>	September 3	Jerry Ball	September 10	Lynn Smith	September 17	Drew Monkman	September 24	Scott McKinlay – see separate entry	October 1	Don McLeod – see separate entry	October 8	Martin Parker and Bruce Kidd	October 15	Chris Risley	October 22	Dave Milsom	October 29	Jerry Ball
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<p>Sunday, Sept. 10 8 AM Meet at Riverview Park and Zoo parking lot</p>	<p>Citizen Science at Harper Park</p> <p>Learn how to use the App called iNaturalist and become a Citizen Scientist in Harper Park. A project has been set up within iNaturalist to collate all observations from Harper Park. All you have to do is download the iNaturalist App, take pictures, share it; and, with the aid of a community of naturalists, the species will be identified.</p> <p>Bring a cellphone if you have one and we'll practice as we hike the trails within Harper Park. The terrain is rough and uneven in places. Bring binoculars, wear boots and dress for the weather.</p>																		
<p>Wednesday, Sept. 13 7:30 PM Lions Banquet Hall 347 Burnham St. Note: We will not be meeting at Camp Kawartha Environment Centre in September and October</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting: Salamanders</p> <p>Matt Ellerbeck from SavetheSalamanders.com is a Salamander Advocate, Conservationist, and a Partner of Amphibian Survival Alliance (ASA), the world's largest partnership for amphibian conservation. Nicknamed "Salamander Man", Matt has developed his passion since he first observed these amphibians as a child and was instantly fascinated and enthralled with them.</p> <p>Over the years, Matt has observed hundreds of salamanders in their natural habitats, some in the Southern Appalachian Mountains, a region proclaimed by the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute as home to more species than anywhere else in the world. Matt will highlight the increasing threats that salamanders face here and worldwide and how we can help their recovery.</p> <p>Matt comes with live salamanders for those who want to get up close to these fascinating amphibians.</p>																		

PFN Coming Events	
	<p>Junior Field Naturalists: Doors will open at 5:30 PM. Program begins at 6 PM</p> <p>Adult Field Naturalists: Program starts at 7:30 PM</p>
<p>Sunday Sept. 24</p> <p>8 AM</p> <p>Meet at Cavan Bus Stop</p>	<p>Exploring the Hills and Dales of the Cavan-Millbrook Area</p> <p>Join Scott McKinlay to explore this interesting area to the south-west of Peterborough. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather.</p> <p>Meet at the Cavan Carpark/GO Bus Stop: From Peterborough take Hwy 115 south and exit at County Rd 10/Millbrook Cavan (Exit #38). At the stop sign continue straight across County Rd 10 onto Syer Line. The carpool lot is immediately on your left.</p> <p>Accessibility: Moderate walking.</p>
<p>Sunday Oct. 1</p> <p>8 AM</p> <p>Meet at public parking lot on Crawford Drive</p>	<p>Fall Colours</p> <p>Don McLeod will lead a fall colours walk to the Ballyduff Trails and Fleetwood Creek Natural Area. We will be looking for birds plus any signs of wildlife. If present, early fall colours will be a treat. We will attempt a shuttle up the big hill. PFN members are encouraged to bring vehicles that have AWD, 4WD or good road clearance. If you don't have such a vehicle, we can carpool from the Crawford Drive parking lot.</p> <p>Meet at the public parking lot on Crawford Drive, at the end of Harper Road and just off the Parkway and Sir Sandford Fleming Drive. From the parking lot, it is about a 25 minute drive to the outing location.</p> <p>Accessibility: Moderate. There is some uphill walking.</p>
<p>Wednesday, Oct. 11</p> <p>7:30 PM</p> <p>Lions Banquet Hall</p> <p>347 Burnham St.</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting</p> <p>Guest speaker TBA</p>
<p>Saturday, Oct. 14</p> <p>9:00 AM</p> <p>Meet outside Tim Horton's in the Canadian Tire/Sobey's Plaza on Lansdowne Street W.</p>	<p>Hawks Over Cranberry Marsh</p> <p>Each fall as the hawks and other raptors are heading southwards, they are blocked by the water of Lake Ontario. They will migrate westerly along the north shore of Lake Ontario looking for a way around the lake. On this outing we will travel to the Cranberry Marsh in Whitby to take part in the annual fall hawk watch. The hawk watch operates through the months of September and October. On the date of this trip, there should be buteos migrating through, and possibly eagles as well. The exact number will depend on the weather conditions, especially the wind direction. If the hawk migration is slow, there will be lots of other things to see. The trip will also provide an excellent introduction to the prime hawk migration monitoring location on the north shore of Lake Ontario.</p> <p>Meet trip leader, Martin Parker, at 9:00 a.m. in the Tim Horton's parking lot at the Canadian Tire/Sobey's Plaza, Lansdowne Street West. We will car pool for the travel to Cranberry Marsh. The trip will return in the late afternoon. Bring a packed lunch,</p>

PFN Coming Events	
	binoculars, and clothes suitable for the weather forecast on the day of the outing. A portable chair for sitting in while looking for hawks would be advantageous. Accessibility: Easy walking
Saturday, Oct. 21 Scugog Memorial Public Library at 231 Water Street, Port Perry	Autumn Regional Meeting of Ontario Nature Ontario Nature, of which PFN is a member group, is inviting all who are interested to attend their fall regional meeting. Details still to come.

PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12)	
Wednesday, Sept. 13 7:30 PM Lions Banquet Hall 347 Burnham St.	PFN Junior Naturalists families are invited to this awesome opportunity to see live salamanders and learn about their life cycle and habitat. Matt Ellerbeck of SavetheSalamanders.com will be coming to teach us about these fascinating animals and why we should conserve their habitat. The presentation will start at 6 pm (note that a different time had been posted in the "save the date" and this is the revised start time). Please register via the PFN website so we can estimate numbers and e-mail event updates if required. Please note venue change: Due to road construction at Trent, this meeting will be at the Lions Centre on Burnham Street.

Other Events of Interest	
Saturday, Sept. 9 8 AM to 3 PM Alderville First Nation Black Oak Savanna, 8487 County Road 18, Alderville	10th Annual Prairie Day at Alderville First Nation Black Oak Savannah Join Alderville First Nation Black Oak Savanna and the Rice Lake Plains Joint Initiative to celebrate environmental restoration! Prairie day is full of family friendly fun such as music, activities, displays, tours and much more. Admission is by donation, all money raised goes directly towards conservation efforts. Contact Julie Henry at jhenry@alderville.ca to volunteer, or for vendor opportunities. For more information about this event, go to: https://www.facebook.com/PrairieDayCelebration/
First Friday of each month 7:00 PM Guest Services Building, Riverview Park & Zoo	Peterborough Astronomical Association Monthly Meeting For more information on their monthly meetings, please visit www.peterboroughastronomy.com Sept. 1: Light Pollution Abatement by Mark Cody Oct. 6: Ha and OIII Imaging by Brian McGaffney

Other Events of Interest

<p>Fourth Wednesday of each month</p> <p>7:00 PM</p> <p>Lion's Centre</p> <p>347 Burnham Street</p>	<p>Peterborough Horticultural Society Monthly Meeting</p> <p>Join us at 6:30 PM for socializing. The meeting begins at 7 PM. Annual membership rates are \$20 individual, \$25 family, and \$2 guest. All are welcome - and you don't have to be an experienced gardener! For more info visit www.peterboroughhort.com.</p> <p>Sept. 27: Photographer Leslie Abram on "Secret Lives of Small Creatures in your Garden"</p> <p>Oct. 25: Jacob Rodenburg from Camp Kawartha on "Pathway to Stewardship — How We Teach Children about the Environment"</p>
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Change of Venue

****ATTENTION! Peterborough Field Naturalists****

Please note CHANGE OF VENUE for monthly meetings on Wed., Sept. 13 AND Wed., Oct. 11.

Due to the construction at the Environment Centre and difficulty getting in and out of the parking lot, the PFN Board felt we needed to make a change of venue for September and October.

Please mark the change on your calendars, in your phones, on the wall... wherever you will be reminded of this unexpected change of venue!

Peterborough Lions Banquet Hall and Meeting Centre

347 Burnham St.

Peterborough, ON K9H 1T5

<http://www.peterboroughlions.ca/contact-us>

There is lots of parking:

- Room for 40 cars in the lot by the building.
- Some parking on the street.
- Overflow parking lot. Take Steve Terry Way driveway to parking and use stairs to get up to Lions Hall.



Presenters from the organization "Wild Ontario" showing an American Kestrel (left) and a Red-Tailed Hawk (right) during Otonabee Region Conservation Authority's Discovery Days event in August. All of the raptors were rescue birds and could not be released into the wild.

PFN Beetle Workshop Report

Submitted by Don McLeod

The Peterborough Field Naturalists, led by Paul Elliot, held a beetles workshop at the Camp Kawartha Environment Centre, Trent University on June 17. Despite the challenges of a power outage, Paul presented an excellent slide show to help us tell beetles from other insects and how to identify many of the most common families. We then went outside and used sweep nets, pond nets and other techniques to find beetles. Back in the Environment Centre, we used microscopes to help with identification. Of course, we all wanted to know exactly which species we had found, but Paul coached us to work on identifying the beetles to the family level. Our list for the day



Beetle from the family Scarabaeidae

included beetles from the following families: Curulionidae, Carabidae, Chrysomelidae, Scarabaeidae, Elateridae, Buprestidae and Meloidae. We also found various other non-beetle invertebrates: springtail, ant, earwig, spider and millipede. While our intense focus was on beetles, PFN members were also diligent in general observation. Among bird species active nearby, the following list was generated: Black-capped Chickadee, House Wren, Song Sparrow, Yellow Warbler, Great-crested Flycatcher, American Robin, Blue Jay and Eastern Phoebe. The House Wren had a cavity nest in the post of a covered structure, while the Eastern Phoebe had a nest at the entrance to the Environment Centre building. An Eastern Milk Snake was found near the House Wren nest. We heard Gray Tree Frogs and saw Green Frogs.



Paul Elliot checking a trap for beetles, with Martin Parker



Eastern Milk Snake

PFN Wildlife Walk at Ballyduff Trails

Submitted by Don McLeod

Sixteen members of the Peterborough Field Naturalists attended the first ever PFN walk on May 28 along the Ballyduff Trails located near Bethany. These trails are on private property, with access provided to the public via an agreement between property owners Ralph McKim and Jean Garsonnin and the Kawartha Land Trust (KLT). For more information, visit kawarthalandtrust.org and look up the link for McKim-Garsonnin.

I first walked the Ballyduff trails one year ago and was so impressed that I volunteered to lead a PFN Wildlife Walk to promote the location. Two scouting trips on May 23 and May 27 were plagued by blackflies and rain, so I was very relieved when Sunday morning's fog lifted to let in some glorious sunshine. The icing on the cake was that for some reason, the bugs weren't bad at all!

The birding was excellent and resulted in a tally of 37 species plus one taxa. Here is the list: Ruffed Grouse, Great Blue Heron, Turkey Vulture, Ring-billed Gull, Mourning Dove, Black-billed Cuckoo, Common Nighthawk, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Cedar Waxwing, Ovenbird, Golden-winged/Blue-winged Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Pine Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Purple Finch, and American Goldfinch. Ruffed Grouse was identified by the presence of a dust bath and the sound of wing beats. Wild Turkey presence was determined by observation of a scavenged egg.

Wildlife tracking was hampered by the recent rainfall. Normally these trails and the nearby road allowances provide excellent summer tracking due to the presence of sandy sections. The damp, hard-packed sand did not provide ideal track making conditions. Observations included Ruffed Grouse dust bath, crushed Wild Turkey egg shell, Striped Skunk digs, Coyote scat, White-tailed Deer tracks and Red Squirrel tracks.



Ruffed Grouse dust bath



Red Squirrel tracks

From the Archives – Peterborough Naturalists Through the Years

Submitted by Martin Parker

The following is an extract from an article prepared by Doug C. Sadler, 1995.

Charles Fothergill, an early settler in the region was from York, England, born on May 23, 1782. He settled in 'Toronto', (brief name for Port Hope), in 1817. He held various roles over time including postmaster, printer, writer, politician and naturalist. He owned property on Rice Lake at the mouth of the Otonabee River, now in Peterborough County, where he built a 'log castle'. He was the first Canadian to write a nature column which was in his private newspaper, the 'Weekly Register'. He had a valuable museum of specimens, many which were identified by visits to the U.S.A. It was later destroyed by fire, a common occurrence in those days.

His voluminous notes are now in archives, but some highlights were published in 1934. They were very accurate according to Jim Baillie. They were among very few records of early settlement days. Some of his observations are almost unbelievable today. It includes nesting of Great Gray Owl in the area and the rarity of Cedar Waxwings, compared to Bohemian Waxwings. His records seem to have dropped out of sight, and to have had little traceable effect on nature activities in this area.

Great Canadian Bumble Bee Count

In response to global concerns about declines in pollinator biodiversity, Friends of the Earth has launched its second annual "Great Canadian Bumble Bee Count" and is offering downloadable "Census Cards" to help identify the bees. The campaign asks people to look for and take photos of bumble bees and to upload the photos with observations so that scientists can better track the bees and learn more about them. The "Great Canadian Bumble Bee Count" runs until September 15. For more details, go to: <http://foecanada.org/en/issues/bumble-bee-count/>

Wildlife Health Tracker

Adapted from Mark Reist's e-mail

Mark Reist contacted the Peterborough Field Naturalists in June on behalf of the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative (CWHC) about a new means of tracking wildlife health. The CWHC is a national organization dedicated to generating knowledge needed to assess and manage wildlife health in Ontario.

Currently, wildlife surveillance is essential to monitor disease and to ensure the health of not only wildlife, but humans, and the environment. This surveillance data can provide us with a picture of wildlife health that can be used to inform a variety of researchers and decision makers. Unfortunately, detecting sick and dead wild animals is difficult as it relies on a large network of enthusiasts and experts to track and report.

As a way to enhance surveillance in Ontario, a web-based reporting tool was developed. This tool is called the Wildlife Health Tracker and it is a pilot-based research project that aims to enhance wildlife disease surveillance in Ontario. The hope is that this tool will be able to fill current gaps in disease surveillance and increase our ability to report and respond to emerging issues pertaining to wildlife health. The CWHC believes that the Peterborough Field Naturalists will be able to provide meaningful and valued information to this research project since the PFN is dedicated to education, conservation, and research, as well as citizen science initiatives.

To participate all one has to do is follow a few simple steps:

1. Go to the website <http://wildlifehealthtracker.com>. Please note that due to a recent technical issue, the Safari browser will not work for registration. Chrome, Firefox, or Internet Explorer must be used instead. However, Safari will work once you have an account.
2. Apply to register. There are only a few simple questions.
3. Log on.
4. Press "Report observation" and follow the instructions to report your observation of dead or diseased wildlife.

An exciting feature of this website is that once logged in, anyone can review and analyze the reported data on an interactive map. The goal is to have a website that can be used as a tool to inform a variety of research projects spanning across multiple sectors (education, government, etc.).

If you have any questions regarding the website, the CWHC, or you have general inquiries, please feel free to e-mail Mark Reist at mreist@uoguelph.ca. As well, if you would like any other informational materials (posters, infographics), or would be interested in setting up an information session to learn more about the Wildlife Health Tracker, the CWHC would be happy to discuss this project further with you.

This project is led by the CWHC in partnership with University of Guelph, Wilfred Laurier, and funded by the Ontario Animal Health Network.



Cliff swallow's nest on a porch light on David Fife Line in mid-June. Photos submitted by Michael Gillespie.

Stony Lake Trails PFN Outing Report

Submitted by Don McLeod

The Peterborough Field Naturalists celebrated Canada's 150th on the Stony Lake Trails on June 25, 2017. Fourteen members gathered at the Viamede Resort parking lot to get organized into groups. After some discussion, it was decided that we go as one group with Evan Thomas explaining the trails and Sue Paradisis leading us to a vernal pool. Luckily, we checked our smart phones



PFN members at Stony Lake Trails

for weather updates: radar showed an intense band of rain on the way. The group soon appreciated the courtesy of Viamede Resort as we waited and watched in awe while the storm roared by.



Widow Skimmer dragonfly

When the skies cleared, we headed out for the walk. The Kawartha Land Trust (KLT) owns property that was donated in 2011 by Ralph & Carol Ingleton and Chris & Lynda Wells. This property is now a part of the Stony Lakes Trails opened up in 2016: refer to www.kawarthalandtrust.org for more info. For our PFN outing, we walked the trails on the Ingleton-Wells property. Evan provided an excellent synopsis of the trails and their development and was very helpful in pointing out features along the way. Of course, there was lots of stopping and looking for wildlife. As usual, birds topped the list: Cedar Waxwing, Indigo Bunting, Song Sparrow, Ovenbird, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Black-throated Green Warbler, Brown Thrasher, and Wild Turkey. Several more bird species were identified by the morning

group. One of the afternoon highlights was the observation of several dragonflies along the trail with Widow Skimmer being the most common.

The wet weather during May to June certainly helped to prolong the life of the local vernal pool. Located a short distance from the KLT trail, this pool hosts a number of herptile species. Sue had been visiting the pool for several weeks and was able to direct our attention to the elusive salamander larvae. More easily seen were the Wood Frog larvae and some adult Green Frogs. After the pool, we did the return loop to cap off a great afternoon on the trails.



Green Frog

News from Ontario Nature

The Wetland Conservation Strategy

From e-mail to Ontario Nature Members July 30

Good news! With its new Wetland Conservation Strategy for Ontario, the Province has confirmed that provincially significant wetlands and Great Lakes coastal wetlands will continue to be off limits to development. Current policy protections will be upheld as the government develops a new wetland offsetting policy.

The 2030 target for the overall strategy has been strengthened from "no net loss" to a "net gain" of wetland area and functions in southern Ontario where wetland loss has been most pronounced.

The Province has also committed to specific timelines to improve Ontario's wetland inventory and mapping. Priority areas will be identified by 2018, and mapping and evaluation will be done by 2020.

Though we are disappointed with some aspects of the final strategy (e.g., a "no net loss" target for 2025), it is a definite improvement over the draft version. Clearly, our collective input had a significant positive impact.

Thank you to all who raised your voice for wetlands. It really does matter.

Environmental Groups Back in Court Over Pollinator-Killing Pesticides

Reprinted from Ontario Nature News Release July 5, 2017

"Our clients - and the bees and other wild pollinators - "deserve their day in court," said Julia Croome, Ecojustice lawyer. "The federal government has for years allowed widespread and growing use of neonicotinoid pesticides without doing its homework on the environmental risks. Our case aims to change that."

Ecojustice, acting on behalf of David Suzuki Foundation, Friends of the Earth Canada, Ontario Nature and Wilderness Committee, filed a lawsuit last year to protect pollinators from two widely-used neonicotinoid pesticides, Clothianidin and Thiamethoxam. The government and several multinational pesticide companies are now attempting to persuade the court to dismiss the case before it is heard.

This comes on the heels of the world's largest study, published in Science journal. The study showed widespread evidence of population decline and shortened lifespans in



A bumblebee collects pollen from goldenrod near a showy patch of orange jewelweed at Lost Bay.

domesticated and wild bee populations exposed to neonics. A separate study conducted in Canada discovered that prolonged exposure to neonicotinoids affects honey-bee health in corn-growing regions.

"We are deeply concerned to see the government being so laissez-faire about neonicotinoids' risks to pollinators," said Caroline Schultz, executive director at Ontario Nature. "In approving these deadly pesticides, the government is not properly determining the risks in the first place."

Neonics are synthetic chemical insecticides that are intended to control crop-destroying pests. However, they pose threats to non-target organisms like native bees, which are responsible for pollinating one third of the world's crops and 90 per cent of all wild plants.

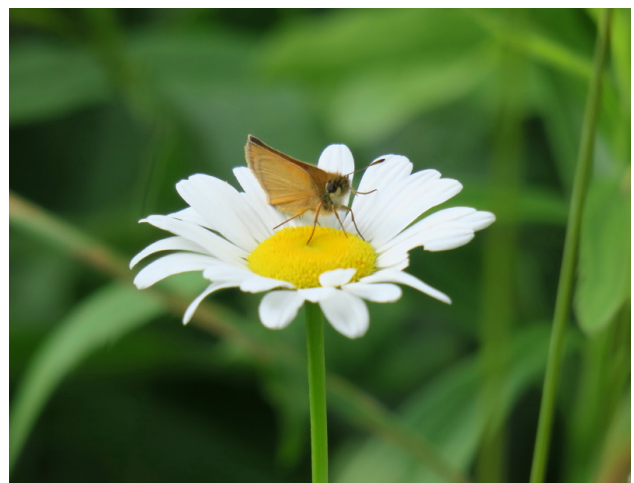
"The broad reaching effects of neonicotinoids are deeply concerning. They're decimating bee populations and while other jurisdictions like the EU and France are sounding the alarm, we're still waiting for our government to assess all the science," said Beatrice Olivastri, chief executive officer of Friends of the Earth Canada.

"Evidence-based decision-making is a core tenet of our democracy. It demands that we use the best available information when making decisions that affect human health and the environment," said Faisal Moola, director-general of the David Suzuki foundation. "Disappointingly, the federal government has taken a see-no-evil, hear-no-evil, speak-no-evil approach when it comes to regulating these pesticides, which is why we are taking it to court."

The groups' lawsuit argues that the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) failed to live up to its legal responsibilities as a regulator, and continues to unlawfully register a number of pesticides containing Clothianidin and Thiamethoxam for use and sale in Canada.

The federal Pest Control Products Act requires the PMRA to have "reasonable certainty" that a pesticide will cause no harm to the environment before registering it for use and sale in Canada. More than a decade ago the PMRA granted "conditional" registrations for two neonicotinoid pesticides, putting off for a later day its review of scientific information on the pesticides' risks to pollinators. Years later the PMRA is still waiting for studies sufficient to justify "full" registration of the pesticides.

"Other jurisdictions have already moved to ban these pesticides over concerns about their impact on pollinators, the environment, and human health," said Beth Clarke, Wilderness Committee development and program director. "It's time for the federal government to do its part to protect pollinators."



More photos from PFN's Canada's 150th celebratory outing on the Stony Lake Trails on June 25. Left: Female Eastern Bluebird on nest box at entrance to Kawartha Land Trust Ingleton-Wells Reserve. Right: European Skipper butterfly on Ox-eye Daisy. Photos taken by Evan Thomas.

Orchid submissions are encouraged!

The submission deadline for the May issue is **Friday, September 22.**

Send submissions to Kathryn Sheridan via email: orchid@peterboroughnature.org

or post mail to: PFN, PO Box 1532, Peterborough ON K9J 7H7



18th Annual Petroglyphs Butterfly Count

Submitted by Jerry Ball and Martin Parker

The 18th Annual Petroglyphs Butterfly Count was held on Saturday, July 15th. The 17 participants were fortunate in having a warm and sunny day for the count, an unusual occurrence this summer. The sunny conditions resulted in good viewing conditions for the participants and the butterflies. The participants were organized into seven parties by count compiler Jerry Ball.

The cool wet spring and summer had impacted the populations of some of the butterflies normally found on this count. Emergence of many species has been delayed due to the cooler temperatures. Numbers of Dun and Broad-winged Skippers were down, probably due to high water levels in the fen habitats in which they breed. The caterpillars of these species feed on a variety of sedges.

Collectively, the observers found a total of 55 species of butterflies representing 3,401 individuals and 13 caterpillars representing two species.

The overall highlight was the number of Monarch butterflies located: 65 adults and 11 caterpillars. This has been a good summer for this species, especially when compared to the drought conditions of 2016. The average over the previous five counts was 24 adults, so this year represents a good recovery for this species. The lush growth of milkweed is a major factor.

Another highlight was the presence of large numbers of 'anglewing' butterflies as well as their diversity. The emergence of the second flight of the year has been delayed due to the weather and on the day of the count seven species were recorded.

The Petroglyphs Butterfly Count is just one of over 400 butterflies counts held in Canada, United States and Mexico annually and coordinated by the North American Butterfly Association. This was a project of the Peterborough Field Naturalists. The registration fee for this count and its participants was part of the 2017 expenditures of the PFN Legacy Fund.

Refer to the following tables for full count results:



Aphrodite fritillaries "puddling" on the road at an old gravel pit site near Jacks Lake during butterfly count. Photo submitted by Rene Gareau.

Butterfly	Park	Sandy Lake Rd	Cty Rd 46 South	Cty Rd 46 North	McCoy Road	Jack's Lake West	Forest Access Rd	Total
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	3	6	1	2	2			14
Mustard White	1			4	2	1	2	10
Cabbage White	100	5	8	9	9	4	2	137
Clouded Sulphur	2							2
Orange Sulphur	4		1					5
Pink-edged Sulphur		4						4
Bog Copper		1						1
Acadian Hairstreak		14	4	1		3		22
Coral Hairstreak	1	10		1				12
Banded Hairstreak		18	1	1				20
Hickory Hairstreak		1						1
Edwards' Hairstreak		10						10
Striped Hairstreak				2				2
Eastern Tailed Blue	1	10	5	2	9	7		34
Summer Azure	4	29	2	2	2		10	49
Great Spangled Fritillary	1	8	1		4	1	2	17
Aphrodite Fritillary	1	24	3		2	11		41
Atlantis Fritillary							1	1
Silver-bordered Fritillary		5			1			6
Tawny Crescent	1							1
Pearl Crescent	2	3	6			1	4	16
Northern Crescent	31	15	4	35	44	27	24	180
Questionmark	1	1	1	5				8
Eastern Comma	11	1		1	17	1		31
Gray Comma		2	2		4	1		9
Compton Tortoiseshell	6	15	2	2		2	3	30
Mourning Cloak		9	4		3			16
American Lady		4		10	6	2	1	23
Painted Lady				1		1		2
Red Admiral	2	5	2		8	2	1	20
White Admiral	3	11	1	6	7	2	6	36
Viceroy	3	2		1			1	7
Northern Pearly-Eye	10	7	3		4	1	13	38
Eyed Brown		33	12	3	14	18	15	95
Appalachian Brown		1						1
Little Wood-Satyr	2	1					2	5
Common Ringlet	1							1
Common Wood-Nymph	1	2	1				1	5
Monarch	11	6		18	7	13	10	65
Northern Cloudywing	1					1		2

Butterfly	Park	Sandy Lake Rd	Cty Rd 46 South	Cty Rd 46 North	McCoy Road	Jack's Lake West	Forest Access Rd	Total
Delaware Skipper	3	25	4	2	2	7	1	44
Least Skipper		23			2	14	3	42
European Skipper	57	233	430	185	237	264	41	1447
Peck's Skipper		6	2		6	5		19
Tawny-edged Skipper		3	2			2		7
Crossline Skipper		1			1			2
Long Dash	1	4	1		3	6		15
Northern Broken-Dash		5	1			3		9
Little Glassywing			2		2	2	1	7
Hobomok Skipper		3				1	1	5
Mulberry Wing		42	2	5		7	10	66
Broad-winged Skipper		139	13	1	1		2	156
Dion Skipper		8		1				9
Two-spotted Skipper	1	2						3
Dun Skipper	24	410	28	44	17	43	7	573
Fritillary Sp.			1					1
Blue Sp.			1					1
Anglewing sp.			1	2	10			13
Hairstreak Sp			1					1
Swallowtail Sp								
Skipper Sp	1		1					2
Total Individuals	291	1167	554	346	426	453	164	3401
Total Species	30	45	30	25	27	30	25	55

Caterpillar	Park	Sandy Lake Rd	Cty Rd 46 South	Cty Rd 46 North	McCoy Road	Jack's Lake West	Forest Access Rd	Total
American Lady			2					2
Monarch		2	2	5		2		11

Area	Participants
Park Area	Robert DiFrusscia, Michael Gillespie
Sandy Lake Road	Susan Blayney, Dan Bone, Rayfield Pye
County Road 46 South	Carolyn King, Steve LaForest
County Road 46 North	Martin Parker, Ruth Davenoport, Rebecca Rogers-Watson
McCoy Road	Mathew Tobey, Karen Kerr, Steve Kerr
Jack Lake West	Jerry Ball, Rene Gareau
Forest Access Road	Dennis Barry, King Baker

Taking Care of Business

I was in the loo, minding my own business on the throne
When suddenly I became aware that I was not alone.
I saw a tiny, brown blur circling about my knees.
She caught me with my pants down, causing some unease.

I heard her whining wingbeats, up to a hundred times a second.
She craved a blood meal from me in order to be fecund.
She was this year's first mosquito to invade our domicile.
Feeling very indignant, I'd slay this sanguiphile.

As she came 'round again, my hands were poised to strike ...
My thighs were to die for, thought the vicious little tyke,
But she hit the floor, her proboscis never to taste my skin.
Its toothed needles would never spit, pierce, or suck again.

Able to suck two to three times her weight in blood each feeding,
She may have laid many sets of up to a hundred eggs before meeting
Her demise in six to eight weeks - a sobering fact to consider.
Disease my dread, I'm glad she's dead, the filthy little critter!

Murray Arthur Palmer, 2017



Dickcissel

Submitted by Don McLeod

Martin Parker quizzed me - "Did you see the bird?" He was, of course, referring to the rare appearance in Ontario of the Dickcissel. So, on the way home from the June 25 Stony Lake Trails outing, I stopped along Frank Hill Road and took some photos of a male Dickcissel. First seen June 23, there were multiple sightings by many birders over a period of three weeks. A female was observed near the male and the male was frequently in song.

I found the following blog link by Josh Vandermeulen which provides some interesting information about the 2017 Dickcissel invasion in Ontario:

<http://joshvandermeulen.blogspot.ca/2017/07/dickcissel-invasion.html>



Photo of male dickcissel submitted by Don McLeod



Trail camera photo of a fisher at Eel's Lake, North Kawartha Township on July 21 submitted by Evan Pinther.



City of Peterborough

The City of Peterborough takes pleasure in
presenting to

Peterborough Christmas Bird Count Participants

an Environmental Stewardship/Sustainability Award
in recognition of your contribution to
the community during the year of 2016

Awarded as directed by resolution of the
Council of the Corporation of the
City of Peterborough

Signed and Sealed this 6th day of June, 2017



Mayor

Clerk

[Signature of Mayor Bennett]
[Signature of Clerk Williams]



City Recognizes Contributions of Peterborough Christmas Bird Count Participants. In the photo, Mayor Bennett and Councillor Williams are presenting the Stewardship/Sustainability Award to Dylan Radcliffe, Marion and Ted Vale and Martin Parker on June 6. Also recognized was Kim Zippel who received a Community Betterment Award for all her work with the PFN, Peterborough Rotary Club and others over the past year.



The Orchid Diary

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

Information is compiled from eBird, Drew Monkman's Sightings web page, the ptbosightings Yahoo group, and individual submissions.

Please submit your interesting observations to Martin Parker at mparker19@cogeco.ca or phone 705-745-4750.

Weather	June and July were again wet months with over double the amount of normal rainfall. One weather forecast stated we had 1 day of sunshine after 11 days of rain followed by 12 days of rain.
May 30	Janet and Sue Sauve reported and photographed 3 Lesser Scaup at the Lakefield Lagoon. Still present the next day by Wendy Hogan
Late May	Brian Wales reported that in his yard in the city had had a good variety of warblers including Cape May, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Blackpoll and Canada.
June 1	Jerry Ball had First of Year (FOY) Common Roadside Skipper on Sandy Lake Road. He also reported the Common Loon was on the nest above Lock 25.
June 3	Luke Berg had a Lincoln's Sparrow on his Breeding Bird Survey Route in the Petroglyphs area (L-H Trail). Jerry Ball had FOY Common Ringlet along the Lang-Hasting Trail (L-H Trail) between David Fife and Villiers Lines..
June 6	Iain Rayner had a Clay-colored Sparrow on the Jones Quarter Line
June 7	Marilyn Hubley reported a Fisher crossing the road near the airport. Jerry Ball had FOY Northern Cloudywing and Hobomok Skipper along Charlie Allen Rd., and Silver-bordered Fritillary along the Galloway-Cavendish Access Road north of Flynn's Corner. He had 16 species of butterflies this day.
June 9	Along the L-H Trail between David Fife and Base Line, Jerry Ball had FOY Black Swallowtail, Viceroy, Northern Crescent, & Question Mark.
June 10	Jerry Ball had a female Wood Duck with 8 young off the L-H Trail between Blezard and Villiers Lines, plus FOY Arctic & Tawny-edged Skippers & Little Wood-Satyr.
June 12	Along L-H Trail between Cameron and Cty Rd 38, Jerry Ball had FOY Eastern Tailed-Blue, White Admiral, Least Skipper and some Yellow Lady's Slippers.
June 14	At the regular club meeting, there were reports of Monarch butterflies – Ted Vale had 1 in his garden, Marilyn Hubley had 2 in her yard, and Robert Patten had 6 in the Anstruther Lake area: the start of a good summer for Monarchs. Robert Patten had Whip-poor-wills calling in the Anstruther Lake area. Kim Zippel reported a clear-winged moth (species unknown) in the Harper Park area. Al Sippel noted both Green Frogs and Gray Tree Frogs are calling. Don McLeod reported a pair of Common Loons with a chick on Lower Chemong L. Lynn Smith announced she had set up bird houses around her home and 5 are now occupied by Tree Swallows and 1 by a pair of Eastern Bluebirds. Jerry Ball along L-H Trail Cameron to Blezard Line had FOY Painted Lady, Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Long Dash & Silvered-spotted Skipper.
June 16	Jerry Ball had Indian Skipper at Jack's Lake Rd, a Blanding's Turtle along Church Road and a Snapping Turtle along Cty Rd 46 in the Aspley area.
June 16	Michael Gillespie on David Fife Line in Otonabee-South Monaghan Township reported that while on his front porch from 4 to 6:30 p.m., he observed 24 species of birds and 7 species of butterflies including Indigo Bunting and American Lady (butterfly).

	<p>Iain Rayner had a Cerulean Warbler on territory along Deer Bay Reach Road (normal location). See by others during the last half of June.</p> <p>Jerry Ball spotted two green phase young Gray Tree Frogs along Sandy Lake Road.</p> <p>Jerry Ball had FOY Harris's & Silvery Checkerspot along Galloway-Cavendish Forest Assess Road north of Flynn's Corners.</p>
June 17	Along Jack's Lake Road, Jerry Ball had FOY European Skipper & Harvester.
June 18	Joshua Vandermeulen spotted a Red-headed Woodpecker in the Hwy 115 corridor near Peterborough, and a Clay-colored Sparrow in the Douro-Dummer Area.
June 19	<p>Luke Berg had another Clay-colored Sparrow off River Road between Peterborough and Lakefield.</p> <p>Jerry Ball had FOY Eyed Brown butterfly along Sandy Lake Road. Rose Pogonia & Showy Lady's-slippers were in bloom.</p>
June 22	Jerry Ball found a Viceroy emerging from its chrysalis and pumping up its wings along the L-H Trail between David Fife and Base Lines.
June 23 Dickcissel	Iain Rayner noted a singing male Dickcissel along Kawartha Lakes Road 26 near Franks Hill (north of Fowler's Corners). There was also a female in the same area and she was observed carrying nesting material. Although just outside of Peterborough County, it is the bird highlight of the period. Was observed and photographed by most local birders and birders from as far away as Ottawa until early August. Last reported sighting on e-Bird was August 3 by Mike Burrell. This was one of an influx of Dickcissels across the province in June and July 2017.
June 24	Jerry Ball found FOY Two-spotted Skipper at Sandy Lake Road.
June 25	<p>The participants on the PFN Canada 150 outing to the Stoney Lake trails observed 41 species of birds including 1 Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 4 Eastern Bluebird, 1 Mourning Warbler (singing in the deep shade), and 3 Indigo Bunting. There were four species of butterflies including Long Dash Skipper, and 3 White Admirals. There was a major emergence of Widow Skimmers (dragonfly) with many being observed.</p> <p>Ben Samaan reported that earlier in June he observed a Map Turtle laying eggs on the Viamede Resort property.</p>
June 27	<p>Jeff Teller found a dead Least Bittern on Syer Line west of Fraserville.</p> <p>Marie Duchesneau reported that the male and female Peregrine Falcons were at the nest site on Anstruther Lake</p>
July 1	Stephanie Armstrong had a Snapping Turtle laying eggs on her property near Warsaw. Turtle egg laying was much later this year due to the cool spring.
July 3	<p>Bill Crins had a Common Goldeneye on the Lakefield Lagoon.</p> <p>Jerry Ball had FOY Mulberry Wing & Dun Skipper on Jack's Lake Road.</p>
July 6	<p>Janet Duval reported that there were 2 fledgling Bald Eagles on the nest in Wolf Island Provincial Park.</p> <p>Jerry Ball observed Great Spangled Fritillary & Giant Swallowtail along the L-H Trail from Cameron Line to 38 FOY Northern Broken-Dash.</p>
July 7	<p>While canoeing on Little Lake, Erin McGauley found a Green Heron nest with 3 young.</p> <p>Jerry Ball had FOY Delaware Skipper along L-H Trail between Cameron & Blezard Lines.</p>
July 8	<p>Donald Sutherland had a singing Dickcissel along Frenchman's Creek Road in Otonabee-South Monaghan Township. There was also a Clay-colored Sparrow in the same area which was seen by others.</p> <p>Wendy Hogan spotted a Northern Goshawk in the Petroglyphs Park area.</p>
June 9	Jerry Ball had FOY Baltimore Checkerspot on L-H Trail, Cameron to Blezard
July 11	<p>Drew Monkman had a Red-headed Woodpecker on Northey Bay Road.</p> <p>Jerry Ball had FOY Little Glassywing & Peck's Skipper on Jack's Lake Road.</p>

July 12	Along Sandy Lake Road, Jerry Ball had 32 species of butterflies including FOY Dion Skipper, Acadian, Coral & Banded Hairstreak & Aphrodite Fritillary.
July 10	Erica Nol spotted another Clay-colored Sparrow on the 5th Line near Hwy 28.
July 15	Erica Nol observed 2 Red-breasted Mergansers in the Buckhorn area. The participants of the Petroglyphs Butterfly Count observed 55 species of butterflies including 65 Monarch. See full results in separate article in this newsletter. Matthew Tobey, Steve & Ruth Kerr had Smooth Green Snake on the McCoy Road in the Jacks Lake area. Matthew Tobey, Rebecca Roger-Watson & Martin Parker observed a flying fledgling Bald Eagle on the west shore of Katchwanooka Lake.
July 18	Along Sandy Lake Rd, Jerry Ball had a Bog Copper and Edward's Hairstreak. He also had to swerve to avoid a female Striped Skunk with 3 young crossing Cty Road 46.
July 19	Toni Sinclair found a dead Smooth Green Snake on Six Foot Bay Road. Bill Crins had a Yellow-billed Cuckoo near Bensfort Bridge.
July 20	Ian Sturdee had a Least Bittern fly across Highway 7 in the Havelock area.
July 22	Stephanie Armstrong had 4 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at her feeder in Warsaw.
July 29	Bruce Kidd observed a shrike at his farm in the Douro area. It was probably a Loggerhead Shrike – a post breeding wandering bird.
July 29	Toni Sinclair and her grandson found a jelly-fish looking creature in Buckhorn Lake. It was about the size of a small loaf of bread. Don Sutherland, Natural Heritage Information Centre identified it as a freshwater bryozoan (<i>Pectinatella magnifica</i> or <i>Magnificent Bryozoana</i>). He stated it is a native species which develops in large colonies as large as a watermelon by late summer. While canoeing on the southern end of Chemong Lake, Don MacLeod and Kim & Mark Zippel spotted three juvenile Black Terns. About a week earlier, McLeod had a group of 9 Black Terns. Black Terns were in this area in June and July according to McLeod,
July 30	Along roads off Cty Rd 507 north of Flynn's Corners, Jerry Ball counted 57 Compton's Tortoiseshell butterflies.
July 31	A Red-headed Woodpecker was found by Rick Lauzon at the Bellmere Winds G.C.
Aug 2	Jerry Ball had FOY Appalachian Brown on L-H Trail between Blezard & Villiers Lines.
Aug 5	A Great Egret flew up the Indian River in the Warsaw area by Tim Dyson.
Aug 7	Donald Sutherland found a Gray Jay in Petroglyphs Provincial Park.
Aug 8	Glen Spurrell had a Great Egret in the mill pond at Millbrook. The fall northward dispersal migration is underway. Jerry Ball had along Sandy Lake Road Atlantis Fritillary, Gray Hairstreak & Leonard's Skipper butterflies.
Aug 14	Dan Chronowic observed a Peregrine Falcon hunting Rock Doves at the corner of Lansdowne and The Parkway in Peterborough. Ed Poropat reported Red Crossbills are in the Haliburton area. Later, Margaret Bain had some in Northumberland Cty. It may be a good winter for this species.
Aug 18 & 19	Tim Dyson reported that the fall migration of Common Nighthawks has started. On the evening of Aug 18, 41 passed by his residence near Warsaw. On Aug. 19, between 6:24 and 6:27 p.m., a total of 98 Common Nighthawks passed over.
Aug 20	As of this date, Jerry Ball has observed 80 species of butterflies in Peterborough County this year.

PFN Board of Directors				Other Volunteers	
President and Ontario Nature Rep	Ted Vale	tedandmarion@sympatico.ca	741-3641	Membership Secretary	Jim Young 760-9397
Vice-President	Kim Zippel	kimzippel@nexicom.net	740-0587	Orchid Editor	Kathryn Sheridan orchid@peteboroughnature.org
Secretary	Martin Parker	mparker19@cogeco.ca	745-4750	Orchid Mailing	Mary Thomas
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Meeting Co-ordinator	Marie Duchesneau	duchesneau13@hotmail.com	874-5739	Orchid Diary, Citizen Science Projects	Martin Parker
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Harper Park Committee Chair	Rene Gareau	rene.gareau@sympatico.ca	741-4560	Advocacy Committee	Jim Cashmore, Jim Young, Marilyn Hubley, Martin Parker, Ted Vale
Co-webmaster	Dylan Radcliffe	Dylan.radcliffe@gmail.com	991-0422	Webmaster	Chris Gooderham webmaster@ peterboroughnature.org
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				Peterborough Butterfly Count	Jerry Ball
Peterborough Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 1532, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7H7					



Cedar Waxwings in apple blossoms at Thickson's Woods. Photo submitted by Rene Gareau.



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="checkbox"/> snail mail <input type="checkbox"/> e-mail <input type="checkbox"/> 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="checkbox"/> Birds	<input type="checkbox"/> Butterflies/insects	<input type="checkbox"/> Botany (Wildflowers/trees/shrubs)
<input type="checkbox"/> Astronomy	<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Life	<input type="checkbox"/> Geology <input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips
<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> 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="checkbox"/> Under 20	<input type="checkbox"/> 20-29	<input type="checkbox"/> 30-39	<input type="checkbox"/> 40-49	<input type="checkbox"/> 50-59	<input type="checkbox"/> 60-69	<input type="checkbox"/> 70-79	<input type="checkbox"/> 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: _____