

The Orchid



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Know • Appreciate • Conserve Nature in All Its Forms



Milkweed pods along the railtrail at Providence Line on October 21. Photo: Marla Williams

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Welcome new PFN members!

- Karen & Greg Foster-Barraball
- John Killick
- Steve Paul & Laurie Healey
- Veronica & Ian van Zyl
- Jeff Bowman
- Dawn A. Scott




Fall colours along Ballyduff Trails on October 14.
Photo: Don McLeod



White-crowned Sparrow. Photo: Ken McKeen



Wild grape at Trent Nature Areas. Photo: Marla Williams

PFN Coming Events	
<p>Sunday, Nov 4</p> <p>8 a.m.</p> <p>Meet at Country Style (Old Keene Rd & Hwy 7, east of Peterborough)</p>	<p>Birding at Presqu'ile Provincial Park</p> <p>Jerry Ball will lead a day-long trip to view migrant birds at Presqu'ile Provincial Park, with other stops of interest on the way. In particular, expect to see many interesting waterfowl. Bring a packed lunch, binoculars and, if you have them, rubber boots (not essential). We will likely carpool, so bring a contribution for gas and the entry fee to the park. Accessibility: Easy walking</p>
<p>Wednesday, Nov. 14</p> <p>7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Camp Kawartha Environment Centre</p> <p>2505 Pioneer Road</p>	<p>Monthly Meeting: Antarctica</p> <p>Arnold Zageris is one of this country's pre-eminent landscape photographers. His photographs can be found at the National Gallery of Canada and in private galleries across North America.</p> <p>We had the pleasure to have Arnold as our guest speaker at our 2016 AGM talking about his book "On the Labrador ". This time he will focus on his recent book of photography entitled "Antarctica " where he has been traveling for over thirteen years, equipped with his cameras - a 35mm digital camera and an old 4x5 view camera.</p> <p>"From the delicate tingling sights of tiny ice crystals, to the majesty of towering peaks and the ferocity of relentless storms, Antarctica animates, inspires and ultimately humbles" Arnold Zageris</p> <div> <p>ARNOLD ZAGERIS</p>  <p>ANTARCTICA</p> </div>
<p>Sunday, Nov. 25</p> <p>1 p.m.</p> <p>Meet outside Tim Horton's in the Canadian Tire/Sobey's Plaza on Lansdowne Street West</p>	<p>Wave Riders of Rice Lake</p> <p>Join Martin Parker for this traditional Grey Cup afternoon exploration of sites along the northwestern shore of Rice Lake. We will be looking for the later migrating ducks and other birds. Highlights will be the rafts of ducks riding the waves of Rice Lake and the scenic vistas overlooking the lake. Bring binoculars, a telescope if you have one, and clothes suitable for the weather forecast for the day. The trip will last until the late afternoon. CFL fans will be home in time for the Grey Cup game.</p>
<p>Saturday, Dec.1</p> <p>7 a.m.</p> <p>Meet at Tim Horton's in the Canadian Tire/Sobey's Plaza on Lansdowne Street West</p>	<p>World's Greatest Concentration of Gulls</p> <p>This day trip will be a birding outing to the Niagara River, a designated Important Birding Area due to the variety and number of gulls which utilize the river in the late fall. More species can be observed in a day than anywhere else in the world. There will be thousands of gulls consisting of ten or more species. Besides the gulls, there will be other waterbirds, and southern specialties such as Tufted Titmouse. The leaders for this outing will be Martin Parker and Matthew Tobey.</p> <p>While the trip will start from Peterborough, a secondary gathering location will be at the Adam Beck Generating Station Lookout at Queenston for those wishing to spend the weekend in the area. If you are planning to meet the group at Queenston please advise Martin (705-745-4750) in advance.</p>

PFN Coming Events	
	<p>Bring a packed lunch, binoculars, and telescope if you have one. A camera may be handy as well. Wear clothes suitable for the weather forecast for the Niagara River area for the day of this excursion.</p> <p>This outing will end in the Niagara Region in the late afternoon.</p>
<p>Wednesday, Dec. 12 7:30 p.m. Camp Kawartha Environment Centre 2505 Pioneer Road</p>	<p>Monthly Meeting: Members' Slide Show Night</p> <p>The members' slide show, held at our December monthly meeting is a highly anticipated annual PFN tradition. Show fellow PFN members your photos of a recent trip. Display those great nature moments or wildlife encounters that you have recently experienced. This is your night to "show and tell"!</p> <p>Sharing your photos and your narrative makes for an interesting and educational evening for all. Contact Jim Young at jbyoung559@gmail.com or phone 705-760-9397 to add your name to the list.</p> <p>Sharing some Christmas baking is also part of the December PFN tradition, so please don't feel shy about bringing a goodie or two. Friendly reminder... the Environment Centre is a nut-free facility.</p>
<p>Sunday, Dec. 16 All day</p>	<p>67th Annual Peterborough Christmas Bird Count</p> <p>Please see article further on for more information.</p>
<p>Friday, Jan. 18 Doors open at 5 p.m. Peterborough Curling Club 2195 Lansdowne St</p>	<p>Join us for PFN's 78th Annual General Meeting</p> <p>Keep up-to-date on PFN business, elect the next executive, enter the raffle for prizes, enjoy a delicious meal and stay for an entertaining presentation!</p> <p>Tickets are just \$40 for the evening, and can be reserved by contacting Jim Young at 705-760-9397 or email jbyoung559@gmail.com</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doors open at 5:00 pm; meal begins at 6:00 pm • Meeting at 7:00 pm, followed by raffle/silent auction at 7:30 pm • Keynote speaker, Annamarie Beckel, begins at 8:00 pm <p>Check out the AGM poster on page 20 for further details.</p>

PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12)
<p>Junior naturalist families are reminded to check the website for event listings and email pfnjuniors@gmail.com if you're not on the members distribution list for event announcements. Bookings can be made online at https://peterboroughnature.org/junior/</p> <p>Activities are geared for ages 5 to 12, but kids of all ages are welcome (parents stay and participate). Our events are led by PFN members and individuals from other organizations in our community who volunteer to share their knowledge and skills with us. We also organize environmental stewardship activities for kids to get involved and inspired.</p> <p>Not a PFN member yet? Child memberships are \$10 per year. Contact pfnjuniors@gmail.com for details.</p>

PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12)

Free Software for Young Birders

Thayer Birding Software has given the Peterborough Junior Field Naturalists a chance to use their software for free. They have created a special code that you can use: PeterboroughNatureYoungBirder

Kids can get the software by visiting www.ThayerBirding.com, clicking the Windows or Mac download button and entering this code. College and grad students can get a 50% discount by using the code STUDENT. Teachers can get a 50% discount by using the code TEACHER

Junior Naturalists Help With Tree Planting

Submitted by Lara Griffin



The Junior Naturalists joined Otonabee Conservation (ORCA) on a fall tree planting project on a sunny, warm October weekend. Counting ORCA staff, PFN volunteers, and friends of the landowner, there were over 20 tree planters. They planted cedars, elderberry, serviceberry, white spruce, bur oak and maple trees to form a new windbreak on the property. The landowner provided delicious cookies to top off the event and reward all the intrepid planters. She also wrote to tell us that despite the strong winds we've had this month, the trees are all standing proud and ready to face the



coming winter because the children did such a good planting job. Way to go kids! High fives to everyone who participated and thank you to ORCA for organizing this fun stewardship opportunity.

First Call for Bucket Draw and Silent Auction Donations

A tradition at our PFN Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in January is a bucket draw and silent auction of items generously donated by our members. Attendees at the AGM are given one free ticket for the bucket draw, and additional tickets can be purchased to improve your chance of winning. Tickets are then placed in the "bucket" beside the item(s) that are of interest to you. Each year, there are also some special items available through a silent auction. In the past, a print, sketch or painting donated by artist Kelly Dodge has been a highlight of the silent auction.

If you have any items to donate for the bucket draw or silent auction, please contact Rene Gareau by e-mail at: rene.gareau@sympatico.ca or by phone at 705-741-4560 prior to the AGM. You may also bring any donation items with you to the next PFN monthly meeting. Proceeds of the bucket draw and silent auction are used for some of our special projects.

67th Peterborough Christmas Bird Count – A Christmas Tradition

Sunday, December 16 – all day

The Peterborough Christmas Bird Count (CBC), now in its 67th year, is the longest running wildlife survey in Peterborough County. The Peterborough CBC participants cover an area contained within a circle with a diameter of 24 kilometers, centered on the intersection of Chemong Road and Sunset Boulevard. This total count area is divided into smaller areas and a team of participants is assigned to each area.

Organization of the count has commenced and members and friends of the PFN are invited to participate in this year's count. There are ten areas within the count circle, each of which will be covered by a specific group of participants. The area party may divide into smaller field parties to cover the area.

It is an excellent opportunity to learn about our winter birds and participate in the largest citizen science project. If you are unable to participate in one of the field parties you can still assist by registering your feeder and counting the birds which visit during the day.

The areas with confirmed and proposed area leaders are as follows:

Chemong/Bridgenorth	Don McLeod
Miller Creek/Selwyn	Brian Wales
Lakefield/Otonabee East	Dave Milsom
Douro Wedge	Bill Crins & Mike Oldham
Burnham	Drew Monkman
Stewart Hall/Landfill	Scott McKinlay
Airport	Mike McMurtry & Matthew Tobey
Cavan Swamp	Chris Risley and Erica Nol
Jackson Park	Jerry Ball
Downtown	Martin Parker

Plan now to participate in this long-term citizen science project. This is the 119th year Christmas Bird Counts are being held across North America. To register for this Christmas birding tradition, contact Martin Parker (count compiler) as soon as possible by phone 705-745-4750 or by e-mail mparker19@cogeco.ca.

President's Message: Political Action and Protecting the Environment

In the leadup to this year's municipal election, the Board of Directors carried out a survey of municipal candidates and circulated the results to all our members. This is consistent with our club's objectives, one of which is "to protect nature in all its forms".



We were approached by some members requesting the club to endorse certain candidates or at least to allow them to use the club's facilities to do so. We had to refuse these requests in order to protect our status as a registered charity with the Canada Revenue Agency. The CRA has a great many rules for the political activities of registered charities. The most important is that we are not allowed to do anything that directly or indirectly supports a particular candidate for public office.

Because we are a registered charity, we can issue tax receipts for membership fees and other gifts and donations to the club. Being a registered charity makes it much easier for us to raise the funds necessary

to deliver our services, such as outings, meetings, the Orchid, the Juniors, and advocacy to protect the environment.

I can assure you that the Board will continue to advocate for the protection of the environment in all ways that are consistent with Revenue Canada's guidelines.

Ted Vale, President

Christmas Gift Ideas

PFN Club Logo

Mark's Work Wearhouse has the PFN Club logo ready and waiting to be embroidered on any piece of clothing of your choice: perhaps a t-shirt, hoodie or hat.

Next time you are out shopping be sure to check out the new location for Mark's Work Wearhouse at 1230 Lansdown St. West, Peterborough.

- Choose a piece of clothing
- Take it to the desk at the back of the store.
- Tell the clerk that you would like to have the Peterborough Field Naturalists' logo embroidered on it.
- You will receive 10% off the cost of the clothing (probably some exceptions here)
- The cost to embroider is \$5.75. You or that special someone will become one of the elite "Peterborough Field Naturalists logo-wearing club members". It doesn't get much better than that!



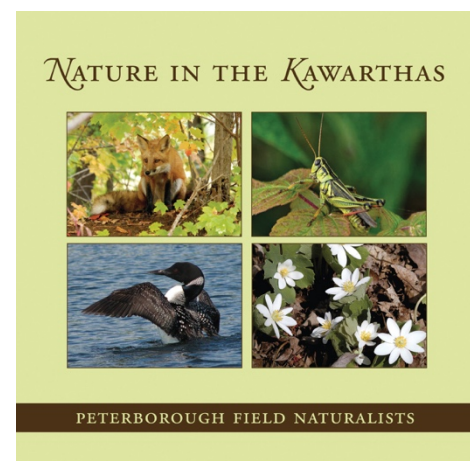
Nature in the Kawarthas

If you are looking for a Christmas gift which is unique to this part of the province, consider giving a copy of the Peterborough Field Naturalists' book 'Nature in the Kawarthas', published in 2011. It contains articles by members of the PFN and others on the natural history of the Kawarthas region.

The following merchants in Peterborough stock the book for sale:

- Avant-Garden Shop, 165 Sherbrook Street
- Hunter Street Books, 143 Hunter Street West
- Green-Up Store, 378 Aylmer Street

Copies are also available at the regular meetings of the PFN.



Trip Report for September 23: Sunday Morning Walk

Submitted by Don McLeod

A dozen members of the Peterborough Field Naturalists (PFN) led by Paul Elliot took in a beautiful sunny fall morning while observing nature. The two locations that we visited were University Heights Park in Peterborough and the Lakefield sewage lagoons. The hydro corridor near University Heights Park was very productive for bird identification with several species of Sparrows and Warblers. The lagoons had several species of waterfowl as expected, but the surrounding area was also productive for bird sightings including several Warbler species. Green Frogs, Mayfly sp and several Butterflies added to our list of species.



Clouded Sulphur butterfly.
Photo: Don McLeod

Bird list with 24 species at University Heights Park: Canada Goose, Mallard, Mourning Dove, Turkey Vulture, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, American Robin, Gray Catbird, European Starling, American Goldfinch, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Red-winged Blackbird, Nashville Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, and Black-throated Green Warbler.



Green Frog. Photo: Don McLeod

Bird list with 24 species at the Lakefield Sewage Lagoons: Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Mallard, Lesser Scaup, Hooded Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Rock Pigeon, Ring-billed Gull, Double-crested Cormorant, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, European Starling, Red-winged Blackbird, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Palm Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler. Other species included Mayfly sp, Damselfly sp (Bluet), Monarch, Clouded Sulphur, and Green Frog.



Lesser Yellowlegs. Note from Don McLeod: The bird in this photo was incorrectly identified in Orchid Vol. 64 No. 7 as a Greater Yellowlegs. It should have been identified as a Lesser Yellowlegs. Thanks to Matthew Tobey for helping me with the correction. Photo: Don McLeod.



Greater Yellowlegs (left), Killdeer (centre), Lesser Yellowlegs (right). Note the longer, slightly upturned bill in the Greater Yellowlegs. The larger relative size of the Greater Yellowlegs can be used in this photo, but that would not help in single bird photos. Photo: Don McLeod.



From Rene Gareau: Last Friday morning (October 12) at around 7:00 a.m., a couple of my neighbours were alerted by their dogs' barking, and spotted a moose wandering around our cottage properties (including mine) on McNaughton's Bay, which is a small bay off South Bay at the east end of Stoney Lake. The barking apparently didn't faze the moose at all, and it carried on westward along the shoreline of our properties. Antje and I were still asleep at the time, but one of my neighbours forwarded pictures to me. I've never seen a moose anywhere near this area in the 35 years I've been here, nor have my neighbours who have had their cottage here for 40-plus years.

Trip Report for October 13: Hawks Over Cranberry Marsh

Submitted by Martin Parker

After a week with above-average temperatures, the weather was cool (about 8°C) with winds from the north on this morning: good hawk watching weather. Eleven PFN members departed Peterborough and travelled to the hawk watching platform on the edge of Cranberry Marsh in Whitby. At the platform they joined two PFN members who were already there and then were later joined by two other members. On this day, PFN member Jerry Ball was one of the official counters, a task he performs on many days during the fall hawk migration.

Those on this year's third annual trip enjoyed great hawk watching. The group arrived to witness two Bald Eagles soaring over the platform. Scanning the skies to the east, birds were observed passing through. Many of the distant birds were Turkey Vultures which streamed by in flocks numbering from 40 to 70 individuals. The resident Northern Harriers put on a display by skimming the tops of the marsh vegetation and at times flushing flocks of ducks and shorebirds. Overhead there was a steady movement of Sharp-shinned Hawk. In a tree to the east, a Peregrine Falcon landed, giving the opportunity for excellent views through the scopes. It was soon joined by a second Peregrine Falcon. They were then mobbed by a Northern Harrier: quite a show!



Northern Harrier diving at a Peregrine Falcon.
Photo: Susan Weaver

There were other highlights as well including a Brown Thrasher feeding on scattered seeds, Yellow-rumped Warblers, one Orange-crowned Warbler, many White-throated and White-crowned Sparrows, a small flock of Pine Siskins, and friendly Black-capped Chickadees and White-breasted Nuthatches which took seeds from the open palm of Cliff Weaver and others.



Peregrine Falcon at Fish Point Provincial Park, Pelee Island, Oct 2, 2016.
Photo: Martin Parker

The total count of migrating hawks for the day, courtesy of Rayfield Pye: Turkey Vulture 1,074; Bald Eagle 10; Northern Harrier 13; Sharp-shinned Hawk 72; Cooper's Hawk 7; Red-tailed Hawk 15; American Kestrel 15; Peregrine Falcon 4; unidentified falcon 1; unidentified raptor 2. These numbers do not include raptors deemed as resident birds which were not migrating – these included several Northern Harriers and one Merlin.

The hawk watching was so productive that participants spent four hours scanning the skies and watching migrating raptors.

Trip Report for October 14: PFN and WBFN Joint Outing at Ballyduff Trails

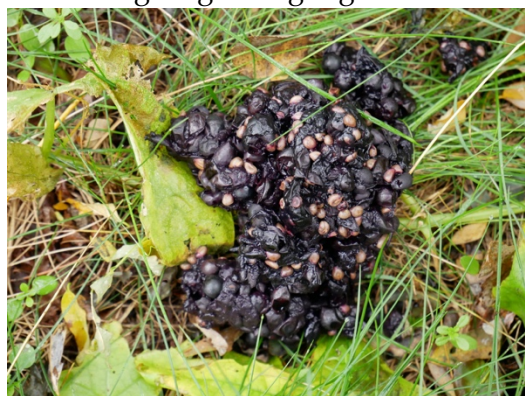
Submitted by Don McLeod

Members from both the Peterborough Field Naturalists (PFN) and the Willow Beach Field Naturalists (WBFN) met for the first time for an official joint outing. Led by Don McLeod and assisted at the parking lot rendezvous by Roger Frost and Marilyn Freeman, 25 naturalists met at the property of Ralph McKim and Jean Garsonnin. Access to their property is governed through an agreement with the Kawartha Land Trust (KLT). Ralph has created a beautiful network of trails on their 260 acre property. Right next door is the superb Fleetwood Creek Natural Area managed by Kawartha Conservation. Our outing was a four hour hike through some of the trails on both properties.



Ballyduff Trails joint outing group

The Ballyduff Trails feature a number of interesting features such as tall grass prairie, an old homestead from the 1800s, proximity to modern wind turbines, hilly terrain, varied habitat and challenges with controlling Dog-strangling Vine and Scott's Pine. Several trail sections have loose, sandy soils which



Raccoon scat with remnants of Wild Grapes.
Photo: Don McLeod

provide an ideal substrate for wildlife tracks. On this occasion we found tracks for Bird sp, Raccoon, White-tailed Deer, Coyote and Domestic Dog. We also found raccoon scat comprised entirely of Wild Grape seeds and skins.

Some of the sandy trail sections had several small holes. We gathered around these holes for a closer look. They were vertical with round to slightly irregular entrances that measured 10 to 15 mm wide. Some of the holes had bits of vegetation woven together around the entrance. At the time, we were all

stumped on the
species
identification for

whatever created the holes but we suspected an invertebrate. Later I searched online and looked at my books to discover that a likely candidate for the creator of these holes is a species of spider that comes from the group known as Burrowing Wolf Spiders of the genus *Geolycosa*.

There were several wildlife trails crossing the people path. The most common of these were made by Red Squirrel. Also discovered were the ground dens and moss-lined nests for Red Squirrels. These feisty and boisterous mammals were very common in the coniferous tree habitat. Perpendicular to our path there was a shallow tunnel with small mounds most likely made by a Hairy-tailed Mole. Other observations of note were various fungi, a fairy ring (fungi), Monarch, Woolly Bear Caterpillar and Bumblebee sp.



Burrow in sandy soil likely created by
Burrowing Wolf Spider.
Photo: Don McLeod

Time and tired bodies did not permit a full experience of Kawartha Conservation's Fleetwood Creek Natural Area. However, while walking up the long hill on Ballyduff Road, we turned south at the

entrance to the Natural Area and proceeded to the observation platform accessible from Valley Trail. This offered a glorious view of the Fleetwood Creek valley resplendent with beautiful fall colours. The scene below and out to the surrounding hills is devoid of any buildings, towers or any sign of human development which is a rare experience in southern Ontario.

Birds identified by sight and/or sound included Ruffed Grouse, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Red-eyed Vireo, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Hermit Thrush, European Starling, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Song Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle and Purple Finch.

Trip Report for October 21: Sunday Morning iNaturalist Walk

Submitted by Lynn Smith

It was a frosty morning as seven keen people met for our hike in the Trent University Wildlife Sanctuary. The purpose was to get acquainted with the iNaturalist software and app. Despite being late in the season and chilly for pondering over a cell phone, we added several observations to the Trent University Bioblitz project.

iNaturalist has become a popular method to engage citizens who want to learn about the nature around them and to document observations of species for further scientific research. An inventory of the species in the Trent University Wildlife Sanctuary will provide a baseline of biodiversity and help to monitor and assess changes due to the impacts of development.

One interesting fungus caught our eye and we used iNaturalist to determine the identification, which was Little Nest Polypore.

As we hiked the Blue Trail, we came to a boardwalk that Jim Cashmore was quite familiar with. In 2003 he coordinated volunteers from the PFN, the Federation of Ontario Naturalists (now Ontario Nature), as well as three volunteers from Britain to build the 250 foot boardwalk. After crossing the boardwalk we can report that after 15 years it remains in great shape. Good job, Jim!



Little Nest Polypore. Photo: Lynn Smith

TIPS for Using iNaturalist

Before getting started, it is worth exploring the iNaturalist.org website and the "How to make an observation on iNaturalist" YouTube video.

First, set up an iNaturalist account from the website, iNaturalist.org.

In order to maintain a species list for the Wildlife Sanctuary, The Trent University Bioblitz Project was set up in iNaturalist by Trent students. Therefore, the next "to do" was JOIN this project to make certain each observation goes into that Project. Last year we were in Harper Park so observations were submitted to the Harper Park Stewardship Initiative Project.

If you're submitting observations where a Project isn't setup, no worries. All observations are valuable.

The criteria for a good quality observation include:

- EVIDENCE

Evidence involves taking quality photos of a particular organism or signs of the organism such as tracks, nests or things that died. It is worth taking several pictures of your observation. For example, for a plant, a photo of a leaf, branch, the whole plant, and a close-up of flower all help the community of naturalists who are identifying these observations.

There is also space for extra notes to further describe the plant, habitat, size etc.

- WHAT YOU SAW

You don't have to be an expert. iNaturalist helps you out in this area by listing suggestions. You have the choice of using a suggested identification or entering your own ID. Generally, the rule of thumb is to suggest an identification to the level of your knowledge. For example, if you know a plant is an Aster, but not what species, then your ID suggestion should be Aster. There will be assistance from the iNaturalist community to ID it more specifically.

- DATE

The App fills this in

- LOCATION

The App fills in the GPS latitude and longitude coordinates.

- SHARE

The observation uploads and is submitted to the iNaturalist community.

Project FeederWatch: Citizen Science Opportunity for PFN Members

With the drop in temperatures and snow in the long range forecasts, it is time to put your bird feeders into operation for the winter months. The birds appreciate the supplementary food which you provide. It also provides hours of enjoyment watching the birds.

At regular intervals from November 10 to April 5, thousands of FeederWatchers count the kinds and numbers of birds at their feeders, then submit their observations to us. This information helps scientists study winter bird populations.

Project FeederWatch participants receive a full-colour bird poster and calendar, a FeederWatch Handbook and Instruction Book, access to the data entry portion of the FeederWatch website, and the chance to contribute to a continent-wide bird research project.

Project FeederWatch is a joint program of Bird Studies Canada and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. In Canada, you must be a member of Bird Studies Canada (BSC) to participate. BSC membership benefits include a subscription to our Monthly Latest News e-newsletter, four issues a year of BirdWatch Canada magazine, free participation in any of our volunteer programs, and a charitable tax receipt for the full amount of your membership.

You can take your interest in birds and feeding birds to another level by participating in Project FeederWatch. To learn more about feeding birds and creating a safe feeding environment, visit feederwatch.org/learn/feeding-birds/



White-breasted Nuthatch at PFN feeder in Ecology Park. Photo: Martin Parker

To register and participate in this long running winter bird monitoring programme, visit the Bird Studies Canada web site: www.bsc-eoc.org/volunteer/pfw/index.jsp?lang=EN

Results of last season: <https://feederwatch.org/explore/year-end-reports/>

Contact Information:

Project FeederWatch
Bird Studies Canada
P.O. Box 160, 115 Front Street
Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0
1-888-448-2473 / 519-586-3531
Fax: (519) 586-3532
Email: pfw@birdscanada.org

PFN Board of Directors				Other Volunteers	
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Outings Coordinator	Paul Elliott	paulelliott@trentu.ca	740-0501	Harper Park Stewardship	Dylan Radcliffe, Lynn Smith, Rene Gareau, Marilyn Hubley, Ted Vale
Digital Comms Co-coordinator	Marilyn Hubley	maykeema@hotmail.com	760-9378	Webmaster	Chris Gooderham webmaster@peterboroughnature.org
Special Projects	Rene Gareau	rene.gareau@sympatico.ca	741-4560	Peterborough CBC	Martin Parker
Assistant Treasurer	Sue Paradisis	sueparadisis@hotmail.com	741-1336	Petroglyphs CBC	Colin Jones
Ontario Nature Representative	Lesley Hale	lesleyhale@hotmail.com	917-0373	Peterborough Butterfly Count	Jerry Ball
Peterborough Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 1532, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7H7					

Orchid submissions are encouraged!

The submission deadline for the next issue is Friday, November 23.

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

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



From the Archives – 1948 Christmas Bird Count

Submitted by Martin Parker

Peterborough Nature Club – March 1949, Volume 1, Number 1

Editor's Note: The following is from the first newsletter sent to members of the Peterborough Nature Club (now the Peterborough Field Naturalists) prepared by J.L. McKeever.

The Christmas Bird Count was taken as usual this year and results forwarded to Ottawa for publication in the 'Canadian Field Naturalist'. Again this year, largely due to the difficulty of finding a time suitable to a number of people at such a busy season, there was only one party consisting of Lloyd Hale, Bob Fitzgerald and myself (J.L. McKeever). We try to cover the same ground each year so as to get some idea of fluctuation in winter bird populations but several parties would give much better results as we often miss on that particular day species which we know are about.

This year we had 11 species and 156 individuals as compared to 10 species last year. However only 6 of the species were common to the two years.

Note: a list of species with number of individuals was not provided.

My Days Aglow Before I Go

I'm one of countless leaves still attached to Red Oak.
 There are redder leaves above me in my Tree's cloak.
 It may appear as though I'm bruised and bleeding,
 But that's my Tree's response to the Sun now receding
 Gradually to the Earth's southern hemisphere
 Until it tilts its icebound North back again next year.
 Tree's growth this year is over, Green chlorophyll's job done,
 Making glucose inside me with CO₂, H₂O, Light of Sun.
 As Earth tilts away from Sun, Green makes dwindling food ...
 My old veins plug up, causing me to appear imbued
 With brilliant hues befitting Autumn's celebration,
 But it means Tree must stave off Winter's dehydration.
 Purple, Orange, Yellow, Russet, in me for good reasons,
 Will be shed within me in the Change of Seasons.
 When I dry out, my weakened joint breaks at my twig.
 Come on, don't frown, there's still much more to my gig.
 Red Oak couldn't grow and wow you without my decay.
 Without leaves, Tree can sleep the cold, dry Winter away.
 With food stored in its roots, new leaves will grow in Spring.
 I'm only a Leaf, but there's inner beauty in every wild thing.



Photo by PierreSelim - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, Wikimedia Commons

Murray Arthur Palmer, 2017



The Orchid Diary



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

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

Aug. 20	Tim Dyson reported observing a total of 77 Common Nighthawks migrating along the Indian River at Back Dam Road between 6:30 and 7:45 p.m.
Aug. 23	Marty Obbard heard a Long-eared Owl near Buckhorn. It called twice
Aug. 24	Tim Dyson observed 162 Common Nighthawks passing over in the Warsaw area between 5:10 and 6:40 p.m. 73 of them passed over during a 90 second period.
Aug. 25	Iain Rayner spotted a Baird's Sandpiper on the pond on Yankee Line, west of Bridgenorth Causeway.
Aug. 29	Lynn Smith observed 2 Common Nighthawks passing over her home near Bethany in the early evening On the Yankee Line pond in the Ennismore area, Iain Rayner had 1 Pectoral Sandpiper & 2 Semipalmated Sandpipers
Aug. 30	Dave Milsom had a Least Sandpiper at the Otonabee Gravel Pits C.A.
Aug. 31	Lesser Scaup were on the Lakefield Sewage Lagoon by Bill Crins & Martin Parker. A Bank Swallow was observed at the Lakefield Lagoon by Lynne Catton.
Sept. 2	A Common Goldeneye was present on the Lakefield Sewage Lagoon by Donald A. Sutherland & Dan Chronowic. Thomas Tamblyn had 4 Rusty Blackbirds at Lake Catchacoma. Dan Chronowic had a Common Tern on Little Lake.
Sept. 4	4 Common Terns were on the river at Millennium Park by Iain Rayner.
Sept. 8	Daniel Williams had a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on the KLT Ingleton-Wells Reserve.
Sept. 9	Patrick Scanlon had a Cackling Goose on Indian River Road. Dave Milsom had a Clay-colored Sparrow in the Scollard Drive area of the city.
Sept. 13	The latest report of an Eastern Kingbird was from Millennium Park by Iain Rayner.
Sept. 15	Migrating Olive-sided Flycatcher in Millbrook by Jeff Stewart.
Sept. 16	Patrick Scanton had an Olive-sided Flycatcher on Indian River Road. A Yellow-throated Vireo was reported at Cordova Lake by Ian Sturdee.
Late Sept	Dylan Radcliffe observed 2 Green Herons near the Hunter Street bridge.
Sept. 22	Matthew Tobey had 2 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds along the railway corridor off Airport Road.
Sept. 23	On the Sunday a.m. outing led by Paul Elliot, the participants found 31 species of birds according to Jerry Ball. Highlights at the Lakefield Lagoon include Tennessee, Palm, Yellow-rumped and Blackpoll Warblers, Blue-winged Teal, Osprey and Ruddy Duck . Along the hydro corridor on the west side of the Trent Campus they also found Black-throated Green, Magnolia, Nashville, Wilson's Warblers, Common Yellowthroat, Field Sparrow, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and Blue-headed Vireo .
Sept. 26	Ben Taylor had a late departing Ruby-throated Hummingbird in the Edgewater Blvd. area of the city. Donald A. Sutherland had a Caspian Tern from the Rotary Trail at Trent U. Jerry Ball had a Northern Watersnake on the 3 rd Line of Douro. He also had a Mink with unknown prey south of Lock 23.

Oct. 1	Donald A. Sutherland reported the first Snow Goose of the fall migration at the Lakefield Lagoon.
Oct. 3	Jerry Ball, Ken Abraham and Ken Morrison had 5 Snow Geese near Lock 25.
Oct. 4	Dave Milsom found 7 Snow Geese (both white and blue phases) at the Briar Hill Bird Sanctuary off Cty Rd 21. Seen by many other observers at that location until Oct. 23. Donald A. Sutherland had 5 Snow Geese at Trent U. Also seen by Matthew Tobey.
Early Oct	Jerry Ball noted there was an impressive spawning run of salmon on the Ganaraska River in the Port Hope area. There were hundreds of fish with their backs out of the water
Oct. 5	Margaret Bain found 8 Cackling Geese at Briar Hill Bird Sanctuary. Two were present there the next day by Scott McKinlay.
Oct. 6	A late departing American Redstart was seen in Bridgenorth by Chris Risley & Erica Nol.
Oct. 7	Dave Milsom, Brian Wales & Matthew Tobey had 2 Lesser Yellowlegs on the Yankee Line pond.
Oct. 8	While canoeing the Pigeon River, Marla Williams had a Belted Kingfisher , Great Blue Heron , & 2 Great Horned Owls . She noted they were very vocal with lots of screeching back and forth.
Oct. 10	On the Lang-Hasting Trail east of Cameron Line, Jerry Ball had 3 species of butterflies – Eastern Comma , Clouded Sulphur & Eastern Tailed Blue . He also found a total of 250 Clouded Sulphur along Nicholson Road and a Wood Duck in the Cavan Swamp.
Oct. 10 meeting	Reports at PFN meeting: Rene Gareau reported 2 Bald Eagles (1 adult, 1 sub-adult) at South Bay on Stoney Lake. Marilyn Freeman reported a flock of about 25 Turkey Vultures in the Haultain area. Steve Paul reported several kettles of Turkey Vultures over the Bensfort Rd Landfill and a female Indigo Bunting in the Keene area. Don McLeod reported that on the western end of Chemong Lake there were 4 Trumpeter Swans & two dozen Wood Ducks . Marie Duchesneau reported 2 Peregrine Falcons are still on Anstruther Lake.
Oct. 12	Along Lynch Rock Road, Jerry Ball had Yellow-rumped Warbler , White-crowned Sparrow and Eastern Phoebe . Along the Centre Line of Douro (south of Buckley Lake) Jerry Ball had large flocks of Red-winged Blackbirds which contained some Rusty Blackbirds . Around 7:45 a.m., the neighbours of Rene & Antje Gareau observed and photographed a Moose wandering around the Gareau cottage on South Bay at the eastern end of Stoney Lake Martyn Obbard had a late departing Eastern Wood Pewee & Swainson's Thrush in John Earl Chase Memorial Park, Gannon's Narrows. Iain Rayner had a late departing Philadelphia Vireo , Orange-crowned & Wilson's Warbler along Edgewater Blvd.
Oct. 13	Late departing Osprey at the Lakefield Lagoon by Colin Jones & Iain Rayner.
Oct. 14	Late departing Swainson's Thrush by Ben Taylor & Sheila Collett in the Edgewater Blvd. area.
Oct. 17	Dave Milsom had an Orange-crowned Warbler & Palm Warbler on the Lang-Hasting Trail west of Keene Road.
Oct. 18	Jerry Ball had 4 Eastern Bluebirds on Hannah Road and another 10 Eastern Bluebirds on Eagleson Line in Cavan Twp.

Oct. 19	<p>Along Lang-Hasting Trail east of Cameron Line, Jerry Ball had Orange-crowned Warbler & 9 Eastern Bluebirds. He also had an American Kestrel at Cty Rd. 2 and David Fife Line. He also had a male Northern Harrier on Nicholson Road. A Snow Goose was spotted in the Edgewater Blvd area by Iain Rayner. A Pectoral Sandpiper & Tennessee Warbler were found along Airport Rd railway corridor by Matthew Tobey. Matthew Tobey also had a Wilson's Warbler in Harper Park. A Golden Eagle was spotted in the north end of the County (north of Apsley) by Mike V.A. Burrell. Ian Sturdee had a late Nashville Warbler in the Cordova Lake area.</p>
Oct. 20	<p>Additional Snow Geese report - Little Lake by Carol Horner & Daniel Williams and 2 at Wetland Project pond north of Landfill site by Donald A. Sutherland. Still present the following day according to Steve Paul. A Cackling Goose was also present on the Wetland Project pond north of the landfill. An Orange-crowned Warbler was seen in the Bissonnette Dr. area by Scott Gibson.</p>
Oct. 21	<p>Jerry Ball had Bonaparte's Gull & 10 Common Mergansers on Rice Lake off Pengelly Point. Donald Sutherland found a Red Phalarope in the Lakefield Sewage Lagoon. It was seen by several other observers. He also had a White-rumped Sandpiper there. He also had a Northern Goshawk along the Rotary Trail at Trent University Ben Taylor had a House Wren in the Edgewater Blvd. area</p>
Oct. 22	<p>Iain Rayner had a Dunlin on the Yankee Road pond. Still present on Oct. 24. Sue Paradisis reported that the crab apple in her yard is loaded with fruit and with flocks of American Robins & Cedar Waxwings feasting on them.</p>
Oct. 24	<p>Drew Monkman & Brian Wales had a Dunlin at the Lakefield Lagoon. They also had 2 Golden Eagles & 2 Northern Goshawks at Nephton Ridge</p>



Little Gull at Lake Simcoe (Barrie) on October 8. Photo: Brian Wales



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

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

Membership fees cover the general operating costs of the club while other sources of revenue are needed to fund special projects such as ecological restoration. You can assist the club by making a donation to help further our work in such areas. The PFN is a registered charity and issues receipts for income tax purposes. All donations are gratefully received and any member of the executive will be happy to speak to you concerning the use of such funds.

LIABILITY WAIVER

In consideration of the Peterborough Field Naturalists (PFN) accepting this application, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever release and discharge the PFN, their officers, directors, servants and agents from any liability whatsoever arising from my participation in PFN activities, whether by reason of negligence of the PFN or its representatives, or otherwise. I affirm that I am in good health, capable of performing the exercise required for field trips or other activities in which I participate, and accept as my personal risk the hazards of such participation. As a member of the PFN and/or as a parent/guardian of a member under 18 years of age, I have read and understood the above, and accept its term on behalf of all of my underage children.

Signature: _____

**The Peterborough Field Naturalists
2019 AGM, Dinner, Guest Presentation
“River Otters: Playful Enchanters”**

Annamarie Beckel is a writer and a naturalist living on the Otonabee River near Lakefield. In the past, as a graduate student in ecology and animal behaviour, she studied North American River Otters (*Lontra canadensis*) in northern Wisconsin and years later she is still enchanted by them, and especially by their playful behaviour.

Her most recent novel, *Weaving Water*, is about otters, healing a human heart and finding hope for the Earth imperilled by environmental destruction. All royalties for this book are donated to the World Wildlife Fund, the International Otter Survival Fund and the River Otter Project.



Date: January 18, 2019
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Cost: \$40/person

Please RSVP by Friday, January 4
To reserve tickets, please contact
Jim Young at jbyoung559@gmail.com
or call 705-760-9397

Doors Open: 5:00 p.m.
Dinner: 6:00 p.m.
Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Raffle: 7:30 p.m.
Keynote speaker: 8:00 p.m.

Contact Rene Gareau if you have items to donate to the raffle or silent auction rene.gareau@sympatico.ca or call 705-741-4560. Please do not bring items the night of the AGM.



LOCATION: The StoneHouse Hall, Peterborough Curling Club
2195 Lansdowne St, Peterborough, ON K9J 6X4