



# The Orchid

**Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists**

"Know ♦ Appreciate ♦ Conserve Nature In All Its Forms"

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[www.peterboroughnature.org](http://www.peterboroughnature.org)

Regular monthly meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of the month in the downstairs auditorium of the Peterborough Public Library at 345 Aylmer Street N.

## COMING EVENTS

<p>April 13<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup></p> <p>8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Ptbo Zoo Parking Lot</p> 	<p><b>Spring Sunday Morning Bird Walks</b></p> <p>Sunday morning bird walks return for another season! These "walks" last about 2 hours and will be held every Sunday from April 13<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>. From novice to expert, these outings are sure to please anyone interested in seeing, hearing and learning about local birds. Meet in the parking lot of the Peterborough Zoo on Water Street at 8:00 am and we will carpool from there. Bring some change to contribute for gas and don't forget your binoculars! The scheduled bird walk leaders are:</p> <p><b>June 1</b> - Drew Monkman <b>June 8</b> - John Bottomley: morning bird walk, followed by <b>PFN Family Potluck Picnic</b> (see page 2 for more information) <b>June 15</b> - Mike McMurtry: <b>Peterborough Museum Property Bioblitz</b> (further details on page 2)</p>
<p>Wednesday June 11<sup>th</sup></p> <p>7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Ptbo Public Library</p>	<p><b>PFN Monthly Meeting: Prairie Passion</b></p> <p>Todd Farrell of the Nature Conservancy of Canada and Ken Towle of Ganaraska Conservation will talk about their experiences restoring tallgrass prairie and savanna on the Oak Ridges Moraine. Presentation to include an introduction to tallgrass conservation, current projects, including for the eastern hog-nosed snake, and challenges faced in restoring these rare ecosystems.</p>

**Remember to come out to the annual PFN Family Potluck Picnic on June 8<sup>th</sup> !**

Reminder: The club (and newsletter) will be on hiatus for the summer (July & August). The next issue of the Orchid will be published in September.

**Have a great summer!**

## COMING EVENTS continued

<p><b>Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p>8:30 a.m. (bird walk – carpool from Ptbo Zoo)</p> <p>11:30 a.m. (potluck picnic)</p> <p>1:00 p.m. (woodlot wandering)</p> <p>Cheryl &amp; Wayne Colvert’s farm in Cavan</p>	<p><b>Morning Bird Walk &amp; PFN Family Potluck Picnic</b></p> <p>Cheryl and Wayne Covert have graciously offered to host the PFN Picnic at their farm (Circle ‘C’ Farms) in Cavan on June 8, 2008. We are planning a day full of exploring the 100 acres of farmland and forest. Please feel free to join the group at any point during the day.</p> <p>There will be a morning bird walk beginning at 8:30am, for those keen to see the sites and migrating birds before the picnic (there will be 8:00 a.m. carpooling from the Peterborough Zoo), the PFN Potluck Picnic at 11:30 (bring a dish to share and a lawn chair if you can – and please bring your own water), and then an afternoon walk through the property to see the amazing habitat found in the woods, along the stream and around the barn. We look forward to having your family join us for this exciting event!</p> <p>As a bit of a teaser, Cheryl and Wayne have put together a description of the farm: <i>“We have a very long laneway that ensures a quiet environment. Our fence lines are wooded and act as connecting flyways attracting Brown Thrashers, Orioles, Woodpeckers and Warblers. A small stream, that crosses the property, flows year round. The stream and springs feed four ponds. For environmental reasons, and our interest in edible wilds, we have let the area around the stream and the ponds grow naturally. These areas attract a wide variety of bird species from Ducks, Geese, Herons and a Bittern to King Fishers. The barns are a natural attraction for swallows and flycatchers and our bird feeders attract Rose breasted Grosbeaks, Gold Finches and Nut Hatches, to name a few.”</i></p> <p><u>Directions to the farm:</u> 2 miles west of the village of Cavan on the 7A Hwy: The farm is at the base of the first hill. There is a sign at the end of the lane that says ‘Circle C Farms’, it is a long laneway into to the Covert’s home. If you go past Tapley Quarter Line, you have gone too far.</p>
<p><b>Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p>8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Parking Lot opposite Peterborough Centennial Museum</p>	<p><b>Peterborough Museum Property Bioblitz</b></p> <p>Join Mike McMurry to identify breeding birds, plants and other natural things of interest that are on or adjacent to the Peterborough Centennial Museum property. The museum director has requested PFN assistance in identifying natural heritage features on the property so they can be taken into account as part of any future museum development. <b>A sub-group will be meeting at dawn (5:00 am, contact Mike at 748-5353 if you would like to be part of this group)</b> for breeding bird surveys and the <b>general group will meet in the public parking lot opposite the museum at 8:00 am</b> to observe birds, plants and other fauna on or near the museum property. We expect to be active until about noon. We will spend the morning walking the property and, with permission, also the adjacent Trent Severn Waterway land. Bring your binoculars, field guides and notebook. All levels of birders and botanists welcome. Visit <a href="http://www.pcma.ca/visitor_generalinfo.htm">http://www.pcma.ca/visitor_generalinfo.htm</a> to see a map of the museum location. The property can be accessed from Hunter Street East just west of the liftlock.</p>

## COMING EVENTS continued

**Saturday  
June 28<sup>th</sup>**

(This is an all  
day event)

### **Kawartha Highlands Provincial Park Excursion**

We will depart from the cottagers' docking facility at the landing on Long Lake; travel by pontoon boat west on scenic Long Lake and through the narrows into Loucks Lake, a total distance of 6 km. We will explore the shore at the west end of Loucks Lake and see our first orchids and the rare meadow beauty (*rhexia virginica*). We will dock at cottage # 716, the last cottage on the north shore of Loucks Lake and then take the path to Fair Lake, a distance of 1.5 km. Along the path we will see many wild flowers including orchids and a half dozen ferns. We will climb the high granite outcrop near Fair Lake and have a panoramic view of the park. At Fair Lake we can cool off with a swim and have lunch. The more adventurous can walk on the floating bog where they will see 3 kinds of orchids and many bog plants. We will proceed another 1.5 km further to Poplar Lake. There is no path but the hiking is good. We will use aerial photographs to navigate. We will see more wild flowers, a beaver meadow, an abandoned blue heron rookery, and at the lake, a winter moose yard in a hardwood forest. You will see numerous bear claw marks on the beech trees. Swimming is good in Poplar Lake. We will return to the boats the same way we came, but in much shorter time. The total time from the cars to Poplar Lake and back to the cars should be 6 hours. If some people want to paddle Long Lake in their own canoes they will probably need an additional 1.5 hours.

Please bring a lunch, water, hat, appropriate clothing, hiking shoes and bog walking shoes. Boat space will limit the number of people that we can take to 12. We can take additional people if they have their own boat or canoe. **Please contact Laura Kucey at [lkucey@yahoo.com](mailto:lkucey@yahoo.com) or 705-755-2171 to reserve a spot on the trip.** Travel arrangements and carpooling will be arranged once we know who is going to be participating. Sign up soon!

## JUNIOR FIELD NATURALISTS

**Sunday  
June 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Trent  
University  
Nature and  
Environmental  
Centre**

### **Fun at the Trent University Nature and Environmental Centre**

Come check out the new Trent University Nature and Environmental Centre on June 22nd 2:00pm. The center, run in partnership with Camp Kawartha and the Catholic School Board, has a neat nature building, trails and fields. We can explore some trails, toss the Inuit blanket, make giant bubbles and have ice cream and maple syrup from the trees the JFN's tapped at Camp Kawartha (I won't forget it this time!). A great way to end before the summer break. See you then!...Neil

Directions: Follow the road into Trent University and then turn right onto Pioneer Rd. The Centre is about 300m on the right side. Parking is along side the road and we can walk into the portable.

## OTHER EVENTS of INTEREST

June 6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Carden Nature Festival, June 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup></b>  <i>"Extreme Biodiversity on Your Doorstep"</i>                  Visit <a href="http://www.CardenGuide.com/Festival">www.CardenGuide.com/Festival</a> for more information.</p>
Saturday June 7 <sup>th</sup>  10 - 4	<p><b>Peterborough Utilities and Peterborough Green-Up present a Green Home and Garden Tour</b>                  Participants will see where real people are making real changes to reduce their impact on our local resources, often while saving money at the same time. Passport tickets (\$10) for the tour are available at Peterborough Green-Up and at the Avant-Garden Shop. Tickets are \$10. For more information see page 5 or call (705) 745-3238.</p>
Saturday June 7 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b>Herptile Day:</b> The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority hosts Herptile Day from 1 - 4 p.m. at the Ganaraska Forest Centre (10585 Cold Springs Camp Rd., Campbellcroft). Participants will discover the world of local frogs, toads, snakes, turtles and the invertebrates that they eat. Participants will hike to a beaver pond to catch, examine, and release creatures. Please bring water, a snack, rubber boots, raincoats, and wear light coloured long-sleeved shirts and pants. The cost is \$12 per family, \$6 per adult and \$4 per child, student or senior. Pre-registration is required by calling (905) 797-2721.</p>
June 11 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b>Moon/Stargazing:</b> The Buckhorn Observatory offers "moon tours" on clear nights at 10 and 11 p.m. at the Observatory (254 County Rd. 507). Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Reservations are required. For more information or to reserve, call (705) 657-7718 to reserve a spot.</p>
Saturday June 14 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b>Perennial Workshop:</b> Gardens Plus hosts a workshop on "Best My Top 25 Low Maintenance Perennials and Why," beginning at 9 a.m. at Gardens Plus (136 County Rd 4, Donwood). This is the second in a series of workshops, with proceeds going to the Canadian Breast Cancer Society. Participants are invited to learn how to garden with ease using perennials that allow gardeners to enjoy their gardens not just work in them. The cost is \$7.50, and participants will be entered into a draw for a perennial of value of at least \$9.95. Registration fees will be donated by Gardens Plus to the Breast Cancer Society. Groups welcome. For more information or to register, call 742-5918.</p>
Sunday June 15 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b>Workshop:</b> The Ecology Park hosts a workshop on <b>Trees in the City</b> from 2 - 3:30 p.m. at the Ecology Park (Ashburnham Dr. south of Lansdowne, Peterborough). Arborist Matt Logan will show participants how to tell if a tree is happy or struggling, and how to provide the best growing conditions for tomorrow's green giants. For more information call (705) 745-3238.</p>
Sunday June 22 <sup>nd</sup>  10 - 4	<p><b>The Friends of Presqu'île present a NatureWorks course on Dragonflies and Damselflies.</b>                  Course is being led by David Bree (Natural Heritage Education Leader at Presqu'île Provincial Park). There is a \$15.00 fee to register but that includes the park entry fee. Registration is required by calling 613 475-1688 and leaving a message. Someone will get back to you with details. Participants should bring a lunch and dress for the weather. See page 11 for more information.</p>
Saturday June 28 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b>Perennial Workshop:</b> Gardens Plus hosts a workshop on "All about Hosta" beginning at 9 a.m. at Gardens Plus (136 County Rd 4, Donwood). This is the third in a series of workshops, with proceeds going to the Canadian Breast Cancer Society. The cost is \$7.50, and participants will be entered into a draw for a perennial of value of at least \$9.95. Registration fees will be donated by Gardens Plus to the Breast Cancer Society. Groups welcome. For more information or to register, call (705) 742-5918.</p>

# Alderville First Nation Presents Black Oak Savanna Bonanza 2008

Join us at the largest remnant Black Oak Savanna and Tallgrass Prairie in Central Ontario. As a citizen scientist you will learn about prairie and savanna and species at risk. Gain experience with salamanders (April - October), snakes (July 19), frogs (June 13 & June 27), insects (June - September), butterflies (August 17) & moths (August 19), small mammals (June- July), and birds (June - August).

Participate and share in the preservation, restoration, and enhancement of a globally imperilled ecosystem. To register contact [savannatours@eagle.ca](mailto:savannatours@eagle.ca) or call the Alderville Band office: 1-905-352-2011

Also check out [www.aldervillesavanna.ca](http://www.aldervillesavanna.ca)



## Peterborough's Green Home and Garden Tour

On **Saturday June 7th from 10am - 4pm**, get an inside view of some of Peterborough's most environmentally friendly homes and gardens. Take a self-guided tour of personal homes and businesses where real people are making real changes to reduce their impact on our local resources. Tour locations highlight examples of green technologies and lifestyles including passive solar heating, naturalized backyards, reclaimed building materials, geothermal heating systems, and simple ways to reduce your energy bills and set positive environmental examples.

### TICKETS:

\$10 buys you a passport to the self-guided tour complete with maps and information about the eight locations. You'll also get a goodie bag with coupons and a gift! Tickets available at:

#### PETERBOROUGH GREEN-UP

Peterborough Square Mall, 378 Aylmer St. N., Unit 4

#### AVANT-GARDEN SHOP

165 Sherbrooke Street

#### PETERBOROUGH FARMERS MARKET

Sun Root Organics stall (Wednesday); Wild Ginger Native Plant Nursery (Saturday)

## What can we do to help our Chimney Swifts?

John Bottomley

Chimney Swifts were not very long ago a common spring and summer sight in Peterborough. They were particularly easy to see in the downtown core as they circled above the rooftops feeding on insects and ballooning spiders. They can still be seen but are no longer as common. As is the case across their range numbers have fallen significantly over the past two decades. The recent *'Atlas of Breeding Birds of Ontario, 2001-2005'* indicates a significant drop-off in breeding records for the Peterborough area compared with the previous Atlas of 1981-1985. All nine of the 10 km, squares centered on Peterborough yielded possible, probable or confirmed nesting activity in the earlier *Atlas*. In the recent Atlas only three squares did so. Overall numbers in Canada have dropped to the point where the Chimney Swift was recommended as a Threatened Species by COSEWIC.

Prior to European settlement Chimney Swifts nested in hollow trees, tree cavities and cracks in cliffs. With the loss of old-growth woodland to clearing they made use of nest sites in settled areas in the form of chimneys and other man-made cavities. Hence their common name. Open

chimneys are far less common than they were fifty or even twenty years ago. A shortage of suitable nest sites appears to be a significant factor in their declining numbers. What can be done to help maintain or increase the numbers of this wonderful bird?

Charles Collins, writing in *'The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior'*, notes that *'Artificial chimneys and nest boxes, which have been erected...in Texas...offer great promise for reversing the decline of the species'* (p.356). What began in Texas has followed the Swifts north; they migrate to Peru in our winter; and *'chimneys'* are now being erected from the Mexican border through to Lindsay, Barrie and points north.

As a club we have an opportunity to assist in this endeavor. We have detailed design specs for chimneys, permission to erect them on a number of suitable sites and, I hope, the collective will to get involved. We are looking for an individual or individuals with the time and energy to coordinate our efforts. It will involve seeking some donated materials, organizing working parties and coordinating our efforts with others involved in the region. If this appeals please contact me at 705-742-1524 or at [johnbottomley@sympatico.ca](mailto:johnbottomley@sympatico.ca). I look forward to hearing from you.

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## Request for Volunteers!

**"Blazing Trent's Trails"** is the title of Ontario Nature's/FON's "Volunteer for Nature" project in the Trent University Nature Areas this August. A group of volunteers from across Ontario will be building several short boardwalks on the new "de Pencier Trail" in Trent's Canal Nature Area (opposite the Wildlife Sanctuary on University Road).

Jim Cashmore will be coordinating the work and would like to have some PFN members come to help out for a day, or even half of a day. This is a great way to meet like-minded people from across the province AND no experience is necessary.

We will be looking for assistance on **August 26, 27, 29 & 30.**

Please **contact Jim Cashmore (742-8644, [cashmore1@sympatico.ca](mailto:cashmore1@sympatico.ca))** to sign up or to obtain more information.

## Trip Report: Sunday Morning Bird Walk, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008

John Bottomley and Ken Rumble

A small group of eight met at the Peterborough Zoo early on Mother's Day. We drove to Lakefield and parked at the Marsh. Our first stop was at the Doug Sadler observation tower, which provides good views of both the marsh and the southern part of Lake Katchewanooka. We spent ninety minutes or so walking around the campsite peninsula before driving to the settling ponds on County Road 33.

Highlights at the marsh and campsite included Bald Eagle, Belted Kingfisher, Wood Duck, Ring-necked Duck and many Osprey. We saw nests of both Bald Eagles and Osprey. A Merlin's nest in the campsite area showed no sign of occupation although it had done so ten days earlier. A campsite resident showed us a nest high in a tree that he insisted was being used by ducks. We saw no signs of life but thanked him for his information and let him know that Wood Ducks did indeed nest in trees; albeit usually in hollows.

A highlight at the settling ponds were a pair of Black Terns, which put on a fine display of flying whilst hawking for insects.

Overall we saw thirty-seven species.

### Species list:

Common Loon	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose
Mallard	Wood Duck	Ring-necked Duck
Common Goldeneye	Bufflehead	Common Merganser
Turkey Vulture	Northern Harrier	Bald Eagle
Osprey	Ring-billed Gull	Black Tern
Mourning Dove	Rock Dove	Belted Kingfisher
Downy Woodpecker	Eastern Kingbird	Barn Swallow
Tree Swallow	Black-capped Chickadee	White-breasted Nuthatch (heard)
American Robin	Blue Jay	American Crow
Warbling Vireo	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Yellow Warbler
Chipping Sparrow	Swamp Sparrow	Song Sparrow
Common Grackle	Red-winged Blackbird	European Starling
European Tree Sparrow		

**Deadline for submissions for  
the September Orchid:**

**Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Send submissions to:

Rebecca Zeran

[rebecca.zeran@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:rebecca.zeran@mail.mcgill.ca)



*Turkey Vulture. Photo by Don Pettypiece,  
Prince Edward County, May 2008*

## Trip Report: Sunday Morning Bird Walk (9th Line of Smith), May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Martha Allen and Michael Butler

In spite of the unsettled weather, 14 intrepid naturalists turned out for what was to be a very fine outing that highlighted field and forest birds. Unquestionably, the star of the morning was a Black-billed Cuckoo that perched low in a willow thicket beside the road before it flew to a higher, even more exposed perch in a tree - a fine showing by species that doesn't always stick around for second looks. In the adjacent field, Eastern Meadowlarks and Bobolinks called and displayed. In the forest, the calls and songs of Great Crested Flycatchers, Least Flycatchers, Red-eyed Vireos, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Wood Thrushes dominated. Warbler numbers were lower than we'd hoped for during peak migration; however, the local breeders were in good voice. For the second year, a Northern Waterthrush sang from a bare tree, affording excellent views. A farm beagle escorted our group for the duration and while she possessed some charm, her habit of unexpectedly baying in the direction unseen quarry may have lowered the small mammal count. Even so, a young porcupine perched at a safe height in a poplar didn't seem troubled by our passing. A four-petaled White Trillium was a botanical oddity. Thanks to all who came out!

### Species List:

Turkey Vulture

Ruffed Grouse

Downy Woodpecker

Eastern Kingbird

Wood Thrush

American Crow

Ovenbird

Nashville Warbler

Black-throated Green Warbler

Baltimore Oriole

Brown-headed Cowbird

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Mallard

Black-billed Cuckoo

White-breasted Nuthatch

Least Flycatcher

American Robin

Black-capped Chickadee

Northern Waterthrush

Yellow Warbler

Red-eyed Vireo

Eastern Meadowlark

Common Grackle

Common Goldfinch

Mourning Dove

Barn Swallow

Great Crested Flycatcher

Brown Thrasher

Blue Jay

Common Yellowthroat

Black-and-white Warbler

Black-throated Blue Warbler

European Starling

Bobolink

Red-winged-blackbird

Song Sparrow



*Black-billed Cuckoo. Photo by Michael Butler, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008*



*White Trillium with four petals. Photo by Martha Allen, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008*

## Trip Report: PFN Outing to Carden Alvar, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Tony Bigg

On Sunday, May 25, a group of thirteen PFN members led by Jerry Ball traveled to the Carden Alvar north of Kirkfield to see some of the unusual bird and plant species of the area. At the first stop at the swamp at Kirkfield rd and Glenarm Rd. Wilson's Snipe could be heard continuously calling and displaying overhead but it took several minutes before someone was able to finally locate one visually. Good looks at singing Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were had by all. A stop between the village of Kirkfield and the Kirkfield lift-lock was made for our first of several sightings of Upland Sandpipers. By a stream at the Kirkfield Lock a Gray Catbird was singing in clear view, and three species of swallow, Tree, Barn, and Northern Rough-winged, were coursing the fields.

We drove the famous Wylie Rd through the heart of the alvar and were at once struck by the beautiful display of purple, white, yellow, and red wild flowers. The ones that this writer is familiar with are the Long-plumed Purple Avens (Prairie Smoke), Indian Paintbrush, Early Saxifrage, Barren Strawberry, a Buttercup (Prairie?, Early?), and a large Stitchwort.

The pair of Loggerhead Shrike near nest-box number 10 gave a great display, one sitting out in the open on top of a tall pole. The nest this year is

within twenty meters of the road. Eastern Bluebirds were numerous, using the specially designed nest-boxes. Although not all participants could pick up the insect-like trill of the Grasshopper Sparrow everyone was able to watch it through a telescope as it conveniently sat on top of a small shrub singing continuously. Bobolinks and Brown Thrashers were seen on many occasions and Eastern Towhees were singing regularly although only one was seen. Another bird whose song some people could not hear was the Golden-winged Warbler. Six were heard singing, and most people were fortunate enough to get a good look at one of the birds. Vesper Sparrows were singing in several places and one was seen clearly on the fence by the road. In the sedge marsh the Sedge Wrens sang in the open just thirty feet from the road. Butterflies seen along Wylie Rd. included Clouded Sulphur, Cabbage White, Columbine Duskywing, Spring Azure, Canadian Tiger Swallowtail, Black Swallowtail, Mourning Cloak, Northern Crescent, Meadow Fritillary, and Common Roadside Skipper.

On the return home we stopped at Canal Lake east of Kirkfield and saw Both Caspian and Common Terns. At marshes on Prospect Rd there were Virginia Rails, Marsh Wrens, and Blue-winged Teal. Finally at the Lindsay sewage lagoons we saw Black Terns, Northern Harrier and a very late flock of a dozen Common Goldeneye. A total of 77 species of birds were seen during the day.

### PFN Officers and Directors

President	John Bottomley	johnbottomley@sympatico.ca	742-1524
Treasurer	Jim Young	jbyoung@sympatico.ca	745-1398
Secretary	Emily Pettypiece	donem.pettypiece@sympatico.ca	750-1145
Membership	Don Pettypiece	donem.pettypiece@sympatico.ca	750-1145
Newsletter Editor	Rebecca Zeran	rebecca.zeran@mail.mcgill.ca	292-9022
Program (indoor)	Roger Jones	rjones@trentu.ca	742-0132
Program (outdoor)	Laura Kucey	lkucey@yahoo.com	750-0803
Jr. Naturalists	Judy Hyland	jdhyland@nexicom.net	652-8473
Special Projects	Mike McMurtry	michael.mcmurtry@sympatico.ca	748-5353
Webmaster	Chris Gooderham	webmaster@peterboroughnature.org	740-2081
Member @ Large	Janine McLeod	janinemcloed@sympatico.ca	778-1479

### Other Volunteers

Book Sales	Anne Storey	743-0345
FON Rep	Rhea Bringeman	742-1035
Orchid Diary	Tony Bigg	652-7541
Orchid Mailout	Bob Quinn	
JFN Trip Leader	Neil Fortin	

**New Member:**  
*Deanna Hergert*  
**Welcome!**





## The ORCHID DIARY for 1 May - 28 May 2008

Compiled by Tony Bigg, 652-7541, [tanddbigg@sympatico.ca](mailto:tanddbigg@sympatico.ca)

The spring bird migration has been delayed by cold northerly winds and many birds are just arriving at the end of the month. Butterfly emergence was delayed also by the cold weather.

- May 03 Scott Kinlay spotted a **Spotted Sandpiper** on Cavan Creek downstream from Cty Rd 10, and also found two **Song Sparrow** nests in the same area. Drew Monkman and Erica Nol each had a **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** visit their yards. Don Sutherland, cycling the Lily Lake rail trail found a **Northern Mockingbird**, and the first reported **Nashville Warbler**.
- May 04 Tony Bigg saw a **Warbling Vireo**, an **Eastern Kingbird**, and a **River Otter** by the Lakefield Marsh. Later with the Sunday PFN outing he found a **White-winged Scoter** at the base of Birdsall Rd on Rice Lake, and a **Solitary Sandpiper** on Blezard Line
- May 05 Whilst cycling in the north end of Peterborough Don Sutherland found a **Carolina Wren** at the east end of Aberdeen Ave., and a **Black-throated Blue Warbler** in the same general area.
- May 06 A rare **Harris' Sparrow** turned up at Jane Philpott's feeder on Buckhorn Lake. She also has been watching an adult **Bald Eagle** flying around the area on Buckhorn Lake where one nested previously, but does not know if it has rebuilt the nest that was blown down at the end of last season. A male **Baltimore Oriole** was seen by Toni Sinclair by her house near 6 Foot Bay Rd.
- May 08 In Mt. Julian, Michael Butler and Martha Allen report the first **Ovenbird** and **Chestnut-sided Warbler** of the season.
- May 09 Again in Mt. Julian, Michael Butler and Martha Allen report the first **Yellow-throated Vireo**, **American Redstart**, and **Common Yellowthroat** of the season. They also continue to have five **Evening Grosbeaks** visit their feeder. Dave and Sherry Hambly saw two **River Otters** swimming in Jackson Creek just west of Ackison Rd.
- May 11 A **Great-crested Flycatcher** was seen by Toni Sinclair near 6 Foot Bay Rd. Toni also watched a mother and two young **White-tailed Deer** swim across the lake in front of her cottage.
- May 14 A **Golden-winged Warbler** was reported by Sheila Hall in the Selwyn CA, and a **Blue-winged Warbler** was reported by Michael Butler on Cty Rd 44.
- May 15 The first report of a **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** for the year was made by Scott McKinlay, seen at his feeder in Cavan.
- May 16 Some very interesting sightings were seen by Michael Butler in the Mt. Julian area - a **Red-headed Woodpecker**, four singing **Cerulean Warblers**, a **Tennessee Warbler**, an **Eastern Wood-Pewee**, and surprisingly the first report of a **Red-eyed Vireo** this year. Tony Bigg found **West Virginia White**, **Mustard White**, **Juvenal's Duskywing**, and **Spring Azure** butterflies on Tie Mountain Rd north of Cty Rd 36, east of Nogies Creek. He also saw a **Black Swallowtail**, **Clouded Sulphur** and **Cabbage White** in the Selwyn CA.
- May 17 Don Sutherland continued to add to our warblers for the year with the addition of **Northern Parula**, **Magnolia Warbler**, **Canada Warbler**, and **Wilson's Warbler** around the eastern parts of Peterborough. He also saw an **Indigo Bunting**.
- May 19 Scott McKinlay reports that the **Mourning Warblers** have returned to the creek below his house in Cavan.
- May 23 Jerry Ball on a butterfly trip to the Devil's Four Mile Rd and Sandy Lake Rd area found **Olympia Marble**, **Chryxus Arctic**, **Hoary Elfin**, **Common Roadside-Skipper**, and **Canadian Tiger Swallowtail**.
- May 24 Bob Yukich also found more butterflies on Sandy Lake Rd - **Eastern Pine Elfin**, **Gray Hairstreak**, **Northern Crescent**, **American Lady**, **Dreamy Duskywing**, and **Columbine Duskywing**.
- May 26 A **Common Nighthawk** circled over Drew Monkman's house in the west end of Peterborough.



*Scarlet Tanager. Photo by Michael Butler, Stony Lake, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008*



# NatureWorks

Presqu'ile Provincial Park's  
Workshops for the Naturally Curious !

## Dragons and Damsels

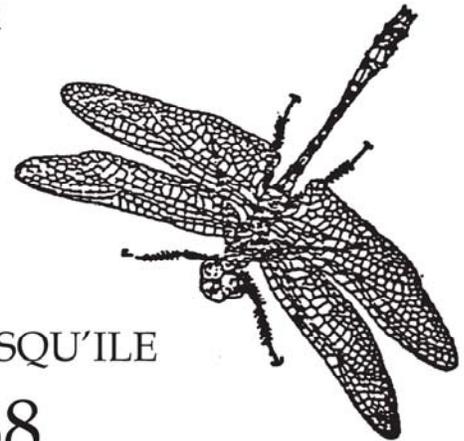
Sunday, June 22, 2008

Discover the world of **Dragonflies** and **Damselflies**. Find out how these flying jewels live, how to find them, catch them, identify them and then let them go. We will look at both adults and larva and find out what exuviae are.



This 6 hour course will consist of both inside and outside adventures. Brings binoculars and dragonfly (butterfly) nets if you have them. Some nets available for use. Bring a lunch.

Fee \$15 per person  
(park admission is included.)  
**Registration is required.**



CALL THE FRIENDS OF PRESQU'ILE

**(613) 475-1688**

TO REGISTER FOR THIS WORKSHOP



This NatureWorks program is brought to you  
through the co-operation of Ontario Parks  
and the Friends of Presqu'ile Park.



# MEMBERSHIP

Memberships may be obtained at the monthly meeting or by mailing a copy of the application form below to:  
Don Pettypiece, 18 Parkview Dr, Peterborough, Ontario, K9H 5M6

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Membership and Fee Schedule (2008) – Please make cheques payable to: Peterborough Field Naturalists**

1. ( ) Student (September through to April) \$15

2. ( ) Single (1 adult or 1 child\*) \$25

\*Membership in the PFN automatically includes membership in the Junior Naturalists

3. ( ) Family (couple or family with children) \$30



Please give the names and ages of the children you wish to be enrolled in PFN Junior Naturalists programs:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_

**Main Interests** (Tick only 3):

(a) Birds \_\_\_\_\_ (b) Butterflies/Insects \_\_\_\_\_ (c) Wildflowers/Trees/ Shrubs \_\_\_\_\_ (d) Astronomy \_\_\_\_\_ (e) Aquatic

Life \_\_\_\_\_ (f) Geology \_\_\_\_\_ (g) Field Trips \_\_\_\_\_ (h) Hiking \_\_\_\_\_ (i) Conservation \_\_\_\_\_

(j) Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

I (name \_\_\_\_\_) am knowledgeable in the following area(s) \_\_\_\_\_

and would be prepared to: ( ) lead an outdoor session, ( ) give an indoor 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 groups**

This information is optional but helps us to understand the needs of our membership. If yours is a family membership, please check for each adult. Under 20 ( ), 20-24 ( ), 25-29 ( ), 30-34 ( ), 35-39 ( ), 40-44 ( ), 45-49 ( ), 50-54 ( ), 55-59 ( ), 60-64 ( ), 65-69 ( ), 70-79 ( ), 80 & over ( ).

**Comments**

We are always looking for ways to improve the club. Please attach a separate sheet listing any ideas that you may have.

**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 \_\_\_\_\_