



The Orchid

Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists

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

Published 9 times yearly
 Publication Mail Agreement #4005104
 Box 1532, Peterborough, ON, K9J 7H7

Volume 52, Number 5, June 2006
 Reg. Charity: BN#11909108RR0001
<http://www3.sympatico.ca/jbyoung/pfnhome.htm>

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

COMING EVENTS

<p>Sunday June 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th 8:00 am</p>	 <p>Sunday Morning Bird Walks: June 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th Come out and join the Sunday Morning Bird Walk! These 'walks' last about 2 hours and are sure to please novice and expert birders alike with good opportunities to hear and see interesting local birds in different locations each week. 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!</p>
<p>Sunday June 11th</p>	<p>Kawartha Highlands Excursion Travel through the Highlands via pontoon boat! See page 2 for more details.</p>
<p>Wednesday June 14 7:30 pm Ptbo Public Library</p>	<p>Monthly Meeting: "Habitat preferences for Eastern and Crimson Rosellas in the Geelong region of Australia" Join John Bottomley as he discusses the Rosellas, a family of parrots found throughout Australia. Two species occur in the Geelong Region. Although both species are easily seen they display very different habitat preferences and behaviours, as do other members of the family.</p>

June will be the last month before the PFN Club breaks for the summer. The Orchid, JFN outings, PFN monthly meetings and PFN outings will resume in September 2006. Enjoy the summer!

KAWARTHA HIGHLANDS EXCURSION: Sunday, June 11th

Heading out onto Long Lake, we will travel by pontoon boat west on a scenic journey through the narrows into Loucks Lake, a total distance of 6 km, passing an osprey nest and many portages to other lakes. We will explore the shore at the west end of Loucks Lake and see our first orchids and the rare meadow beauty. We will dock at Terry Hunter's cottage 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. 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.

Depending on the amount of time (and the group's interest) we will either return the way we came or proceed for another 1.5 km further to Poplar Lake. There is no path but the hiking is good. 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. 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 and some change to contribute for gas. Boat space will limit the number of people that we can take on the journey. **Please contact Laura Kucey at lkucey@yahoo.ca or 705-750-0803 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

LEARN TO BE A WEATHER FORECASTER

Sunday
June 11th
2 pm



"Winds from the East – Weather's a beast, Fish bite more just before the storm". Learn these and more natural weather predictions at the next JF JFN outing when we will make some homemade weather instruments and check out how the animals and plants can be pretty good weather forecasters. Meet Neil at the main parking lot at Jackson Park at 2:00 p.m. (This will be the last JFN outing until the fall).

Have a Great Summer!



New Members

*Erin Park
Tanya Taylor*

Welcome!

LARGE WOODLANDS CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE UPDATE

Hello PFN members. With a mixture of excitement for a new job opportunity, and sadness at saying goodbye, that this is my last article as coordinator for the Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative.

There is still over a year left in our outreach project, and there will be a new coordinator shortly to keep you posted of news and events.

Working with the LWCC steering committee, particularly the dedicated folks at the PFN has been a wonderful experience. Special thanks to Dave Hambly, Gord Mallory and Jim Young whose support and encouragement have made the job of coordinating the LWCC an easy one. I look forward to joining the PFN as a "civilian" member, and joining you on meetings and outings.

Stay tuned to the Orchid for news and updates on the LWCC. You can visit the LWCC booth at the International Plowing Match in September: see <http://www.peterboroughipm.ca/> for more information.

As always, you can visit the LWCC on the web at www.trentu.ca/org/woodlands, or call (705) 748-1011 ext: 5068.

Thanks PFN,
Danielle Tassie



White Trillium, Peterborough County,
Photo by Danielle Tassie



ORCHID SUBMISSIONS WANTED!

I would like to encourage members to send in stories, pictures, poetry, artwork, articles, reviews or PFN outing write-ups. Please remember that if the submission is not your own work, I need to receive original author and publication information in order to give proper credit for the piece. This is your newsletter and we need your help to make it great!

**Deadline for submissions for the September issue:
Monday, August 21st, 2006**

Please note – my address has changed. Please send all submissions to:
Rebecca Zeran, P.O. Box 345, Bridgenorth, ON, K0L 1H0
Submissions can still be e-mailed to me at: rebecca.zeran@mail.mcgill.ca

SAW-WHET OWL BANDING ACTIVITIES AT THE OLIVER CENTRE IN FALL 2005

Dan Harrietha, Carrie Sadowski, Erica Nol and Chris Risley; photos by Jerome Petigny

The following is a summary report for *Aegolius acadicus* (Northern Saw-whet Owl) banding activities conducted at the James McLean Oliver Ecological Centre of Trent University in 2005. In the 35 days of banding activities, between September 30 and November 4, a total of **95 saw-whet owls** were captured and banded with an average of 2.77 owls per night. This year's mean was higher than the six year (1999-2004) mean of 2.27 owls captured per night, and 2 fewer mist nets were used this year (9 versus the usual 11). This was the seventh consecutive year that owl-banding has taken place at the Oliver Centre.

The Northern Saw-whet Owl banding project aims to document the migration routes and survival rates of owls that pass through the Kawartha Lakes region during their fall migration. Long-term project information including condition, age, sex, and other characteristics will give some insight into population dynamics of this species over time. Because of the nocturnal and cryptic nature of owls, banding surveys are one of the most efficient ways of acquiring information on owl populations. The data from this project are contributed to a Canada wide database on Northern Saw-whet Owl migration maintained by Bird Studies Canada.

Banding activities took place at the James McLean Oliver Ecological Centre, located about 50 minutes north of Peterborough, Ontario, on the north shore of Pigeon Lake near Bobcaygeon. This property was donated by Marjorie Oliver to Trent University in October 1998. The 270-acre waterfront property has had minimal development, and consists of shoreline, pastures, old fields, a marsh, and forest habitat. The specific site where owl studies

were conducted consists primarily of Red Oak and Eastern White Cedar

Nine 30 cm mesh mist nets, commonly referred to as "thrush nets," were placed in three groups of three in the wooded areas surrounding the banding station (cottage). Nets 1, 2 and 3 (set A) were set in a "T" formation located on the west side of the cottage. Nets 4, 5 and 6 (set B) were set in a straight line under a hydro line north of the cottage. Nets 7, 8 and 9 (set C) were also set in a "T" formation on the east side of the station. The lowest trammels of the nets were set so that they were always >30 cm above the ground. This ensured that any owls caught in the lowest pockets of the nets would not touch the ground nor be close to potential predators.

Nets were opened for a minimum of four



hours a night, beginning after dusk. However, nets were occasionally closed early if the welfare of a captured owl was expected to be compromised by inclement weather (e.g.

precipitation, temperatures below freezing, or excessive wind) or the presence of a known predator (e.g. Barred Owls). CD audio lures of repeated saw-whet owl "toot" calls were played at each of the net sets continuously during the 4-hour period. Nets were checked every 20 minutes and owls removed by experienced banders. Details of fat, age/sex, wing chord, and mass were recorded for each bird, as well as date/time, net number and net direction. Each new

(i.e. not already banded) bird was banded with a USFWS/CWS aluminum band (size 4) before release. Pyle et al. (1997), as well as the Brinker wing-mass discriminant function available from Project OwlNet for sex identification (Huy 2004), were used to determine age and sex of captured birds.

Similar to previous years, the majority of owls caught in 2005 were identified as female (80%). However, the proportion of hatching-year birds in the sample declined from 61% in 2004 to 36% in 2005, which may suggest that 2005 was a poorer year for saw-whet owl production, or that the peak movement of younger birds occurred in advance of netting operations this year.

Of the 95 owls caught, 4 were foreign recaptures. Interestingly, two of these recaptures came together on the same night, and it was discovered that these two owls were originally banded together on the same night in November 2004 at the Prince Edward Point banding station, on the north shore of Lake Ontario. Two recaptures of owls originally banded at the Oliver Centre were also reported to the project by other banding stations this year. One was an owl banded earlier this same season in Toronto, and the other was originally banded in 2003 on the Bruce Peninsula.

There were two peak nights this year, on which 10 owls were captured each night. On both nights, the temperature recorded at 1900h was 11°C. The dates of these peaks were October 8th and October 20th, which straddle the average date for peak capture of saw-whet owls at the Oliver Centre (usually around October 15), as shown by past data. Net line B, the one in the hydro corridor, caught the highest number of owls.

This project was overseen by Dr. Erica Nol, professor in the Biology Department of Trent University. Activities were conducted with in-kind support from the James McLean Oliver Ecological Centre of Trent University and financial assistance from the

Peterborough Field Naturalists (PFN).

Additional in-kind support was provided by the ornithology lab of Erica Nol. Sub-permittee banders and volunteers helped with banding and capturing owls, and ensured that nightly



procedures ran smoothly. As well, several naturalists groups, including a group of the PFN Junior Naturalists, were given special opportunities to observe the owl banding operations.

References

Huy, S. 2004. Project OwlNet. Migrant Northern Saw-Whet Owl Netting Methodology. [Online]. URL: <http://www.projectowl.net/org/netproto.htm>

Pyle, P., S. N. G. Howell, D. F. Desante, R. P. Yunick, and M. Gustafson. 1997. Identification guide to North American birds. Part I. Columbidae to Ploceidae. Slate Creek Press, Bolinas, California.



NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWLS BANDED NEAR LAKEFIELD IN FALL 2005

- by Myles Falconer (mylesfalconer@canoemail.com) and Chris Risley

In addition to the Northern Saw-whet Owl banding sponsored in part by the PFN and taking place at the Oliver Property near Nogies Creek, Myles Falconer (a Trent University student) conducted owl banding in his backyard a few km north of Lakefield and about 22 km E of the Oliver Property. This was the first time owl banding had been attempted at this site. Myles used a single CD machine as a lure with two 12 m long mist nets (60mm mesh) placed nearby. The banding location was in a field north of his house. The habitat in the area is mostly agricultural with patchy wooded strips and residential housing. Lake Katchewanooka is located approximately 60 m to the south of the site.

Even with only two nets, Myles banded an impressive total of 114 Northern Saw-whet Owls, as well as re-trapping 6 of his owls again and catching two owls banded elsewhere (foreign re-traps). Operations were conducted on 27 nights between September 27th and November 6th. However, many nights were limited to only a few hours of netting due to the inclement weather and piling up school assignments (!). The best nights were October 10-11 and 21-22 with 16 and 15 owls banded respectively.

The foreign recovered owls captured by Myles were from Whitefish Bird Observatory, MI and Long Point Bird Observatory, ON. Both of these birds were banded in the fall of 2003. These birds had made a southern trip last fall-winter, returned north and now were caught by Myles on their way south. The owl which had been trapped in MI has taken a more easterly route south this fall than last fall.

It is interesting to note that none of Myle's owls were caught at the Oliver Property nor any of theirs caught by him. It would appear that on the gently rolling landscape of the Kawarthas, the owls migrate south across a broad front and don't appear to veer off course. The total captured by Myles north of Lakefield (116) is higher than the number captured at the Oliver Property (99). Perhaps the more open habitat near his nets concentrated the owls as they landed near his two nets. At the Oliver Property there is much more cedar bush and hardwood forest in which the owls could spread out. In addition the larger mesh nets used by Myles have a higher rate of owl retention as compared to the finer mesh nets at the Oliver Property which allow more of the owls to bounce out. One further factor that may have contributed to Myles' success: on 'good owl nights' Myles would sometimes operate his traps until 6 in the morning! A comparison of capture rate by standardizing for number of nets and number of nights shows Myles was capturing owls at a rate seven times higher than at the Oliver Property (see Table 1)! Myles is keen to try banding again at this site next fall as long as the neighbours can tolerate the constant owl tooting. ; -)

Table 1: Comparison of Northern Saw-whet Owls banded at Two Locations in the Kawarthas.

	Oliver Property	North of Lakefield
# Owls Banded	95	114
# Foreign Re-traps	4	2
Total Owls Captured	99	116
# of Nights	35	27
# of Nets	9	2
# Banded/net/night	0.31	2.15

PLANTING EVENT ALONG PETERBOROUGH PARKWAY

- by Mike McMurtry

On April 29th several Peterborough Field Naturalists members helped plant native plants along the Parkway right-of-way in an event organized by Peterborough Green-Up. The site was just west of Hilliard and north of St. Paul's School. Many members of the public assisted as well – there were about two dozen volunteers in all. Various trees and shrubs were planted. The shrubs included Chokecherry, Grey Dogwood, Saskatoon, Common Elderberry, High-bush Cranberry, Nannyberry, Red-osier Dogwood and Silky Dogwood. The trees included Black Cherry, Bur Oak, Hackberry, Silver Maple and Tamarack. The site included a range of wet to dry conditions and the species were selected to fit the conditions. Participation in a round table discussion group called the Kawartha Ecological Restoration Network helped facilitate PFN involvement in this worthwhile project and we hope there will be more in the future. Congratulations and thanks to Cathy Dueck, Kristy Hogsden and others from Peterborough Green-Up for an excellent job of organizing and publicizing this event. Not only was care taken in selecting the material for planting, the volunteers were treated to refreshments as well. Some pictures below show how much fun hard work can be.



Volunteers planting trees at the Parkway.
Photo courtesy of Mike McMurtry.



Shoveling mulch. Photo courtesy of Mike McMurtry.

Please contact Mike McMurtry if you are interested in participating in an inventory of City of Peterborough parks for the presence of invasive species such as Garlic Mustard and European Buckthorn. It has been suggested that the club submit a proposal to do such an inventory to the City's Park Planning Committee in advance of any future invasive species eradication work. Mike can be reached at michael.mcmurtry@sympatico.ca or 705-748-5353. Thank you.

REPORT OF TRIP TO HERKIMER POINT, APRIL 30, 2006

- by Mike McMurtry

About 10 PFN members joined Mike McMurtry for a Sunday morning trip to Herkimer Point on April 30th this spring. We car-pooled from the Peterborough Zoo parking lot and drove county roads to the Point. The species seen along the way included:

- American Kestrel
- American Robin
- Black-capped Chickadee
- Blue Jay
- Brown-headed Cowbird
- Brown Thrasher
- Eastern Meadowlark
- Eastern Phoebe
- European Starling
- Field Sparrow
- Killdeer
- Mourning Dove
- Northern Cardinal
- Northern Flicker
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Song Sparrow
- Swamp Sparrow
- Tree Swallow
- White-throated Sparrow
- Wilson's Snipe

Herkimer Point itself yielded a close view of American Bittern as well as Yellow-rumped Warbler, Pine Warbler, Double-crested Cormorant, Barn Swallow, another Red-tailed Hawk, Common Grackle, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Caspian Tern, Ring-billed Gull and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Other species expected based on a scouting trip the week before, but not seen this time, were Blue-winged Teal, Mallard, Great Blue Heron, Ruffed Grouse, Hairy Woodpecker, Brown Creeper, Canada Goose, Golden-Crowned Kinglet and Osprey.

The group also spent some time enjoying the plants in the area. Some of the species we noticed were Early Meadow Rue (in flower), Trout Lily, Large-lowered Trillium (just out in flower), Bitternut Hickory, Black Cherry, Ironwood, Red Oak, White Pine, Pussy Willow, Speckled Alder, Marginal Wood Fern, Mayapple, Peduncled Sedge and Chokecherry. Bill Snowdon proved to be a valuable source of information on how to identify trees not yet out in leaf. The Trilliums were interesting in that several individuals had the normally all-white petals variegated with green of a leaf-like texture. This condition is apparently common in this species and is the result of a "mycoplasma-like infection", (Michigan Flora, Part I, E.G. Voss, p. 403). Such forms have been named by some botanists but are not now considered to have taxonomic status.



Trout lily,
Herkimer Point.
Photo by Mike
McMurtry.

SUNDAY MORNING BIRD WALK REPORT, MAY 21st, 2006

- by Don Pettypiece

It was a cold, wet and windy day. Nevertheless, Don, Em, Barb and Joe joined Jerry Ball for a trip to Herkemer's Point. Species found were:

- American Crow
- American Goldfinch
- American Redstart
- American Robin
- Baltimore Oriole
- Black-capped Chickadee
- Blue Jay
- Bobolink
- Brown-headed Cowbird
- Chestnut-sided Warbler
- Common Grackle
- Common Yellow-throat
- Double-crested Cormorant
- European Starling
- Great Blue Heron
- Great Crested Flycatcher
- Grey Catbird
- Herring Gull
- House Sparrow
- Indigo Bunting
- Mallard
- Mourning Dove
- Northern Flicker
- Northern Water-thrush
- Osprey
- Ovenbird
- Red-eyed Vireo
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Ring-billed Gull
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- Ruffed Grouse
- Song Sparrow
- Sora
- Swamp Sparrow
- Turkey Vulture
- Wood Duck
- Wood Thrush
- Yellow Warbler

SPRING MEETING OF THE LAKE ONTARIO NORTH GROUP

- by Rhea Bringeman

The spring area meeting of the Ontario Nature: Lake Ontario North group was held at Port Hope. Willow Beach Field Naturalists hosted the meeting. Twelve groups attended, including naturalist groups, Friends of the Rouge, Thicksen's and Peter's Woods, Friends of the Osprey and Northumberland County Forest.

All the groups gave reports. The PFN presented our concerns about the development proposals and possible re-zoning of open space at the Parkway entrance to Peterborough. The AGM that the PFN is hosting in 2007 was mentioned, as well as our other activities. The other clubs presented other topics of interest, including: planting butterfly gardens, putting up osprey platforms, purchasing land, keeping paths open, cleaning up the countryside and waterfronts. The 50 kilometres of trails in the Oak Ridges Moraine was also discussed, including the desire to create a trail through Toronto.

For those of you who don't already know, Ontario Nature has a new Executive Director, Carolyn Schultz. The concluding thought of the meeting was that greenways are becoming more important all the time as urban growth continues to expand.



Winterberry, Kawartha Highlands, May 2006. Photo by Mike McMurtry.



The **ORCHID DIARY** for **21 Apr - 23 May 2006**

Compiled by Tony Bigg, 652-7541, TandDBigg@aol.com

- Apr 15 A late but very interesting report was made by David Barnum of his observation of two **Whooping Cranes** passing in front of his house on Upper Buckhorn Lake on this date. To quote David 'Both birds are female, numbered 309 & 520. The birds were at an altitude of 40-45 metres with full sunlight brilliantly displaying adult plumage of white with the black wing tip feathers. They were picked up by PTT (?) south of Port Perry on the 14th and stayed overnight in the Lakefield area before proceeding to Lewis County, New York. They are part of the eastern colony that is being established in Wisconsin. 309 was off course last year and was recaptured in North Carolina and returned to the Florida wintering grounds. 520 is last year's hatch and seemed to have attached herself to 309 and followed along. Both birds were hatched at Patuxent and raised in the Necedah NWR where they learned to fly with an ultra light aircraft and migrate to the Florida wintering grounds. They plan to capture the birds in New York and move them.'
- Apr 21 Whilst walking through Miller Creek CA Myles Falconer (MF) observed six **Virginia Rails**, three **Yellow-rumped Warblers**, ten **Ruby-crowned Kinglets**, two **Rusty Blackbirds**, two dozen **Swamp Sparrows**, one **Pied-billed Grebe**, 35 **Green-winged Teal**, and six **Wilson's Snipes**.
- Apr 23 Drew Monkman (DM), leading a PFN walk, reported watching the two adult **Bald Eagles** and a young bird on their nest on Katchewanooka Lake. He also had hundreds of swallows, mostly **Tree Swallows** with a few **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** and **Barn Swallows**, foraging over the surface of the lake. **Yellow-rumped Warblers** and **Pine Warblers** were seen during the trip. Scott McKinlay (SM) also reported a **Yellow-rumped Warbler** along with a **Blue-headed Vireo** and a **Chipping Sparrow** behind his house along Cavan Creek. Jerry Ball saw a **Brown Thrasher** on the 3rd Line of South Monaghan.
- Apr 24 A **Horned Grebe** was spotted by Karen Ness on Clear Lake. On an outing with Doug Sadler in the Cavan area, John Cavanagh (JC) reported seeing three **Ospreys**, a **Red-shouldered Hawk**, **Northern Harrier**, **Brown Thrasher**, **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, and **Eastern Bluebirds**.
- Apr 26 Martyn Obbard found a small group of three **Lesser Yellowlegs** and two **Greater Yellowlegs** feeding in a run-off pond north of Lakehurst. Andrew Jobes (AJ) et al on an evening outing to Miller's Creek recorded **Spring Peepers**, **Chorus Frogs**, **Leopard Frogs**, and **Wood Frogs**. They also heard **Wilson's Snipe** whinnying overhead, **Soras**, and **Sandhill Cranes**.
- Apr 27 Michael Butler observed a **Cooper's Hawk** take down a **Rock Pigeon** at his feeder
- Apr 28 SM heard and saw a **Broad-winged Hawk** from his house in Cavan. Don Sutherland (DS) heard a **Northern Waterthrush**, and only a few **Spring Peepers** in the Cavan Swamp south of Mount Pleasant. He noted a lot of **Marsh Marigold** in flower
- Apr 29 Around the Trent University area, MF observed a **Palm Warbler** (western spp), **Yellow-rumped Warblers**, **Black-and-white Warblers**, **Northern Waterthrushes**, **Purple Finches**, **Winter Wrens**, **Broad-winged Hawk**, and **Pine Warblers**. He also noted a **Green Darner** dragonfly. DM observed that there were two eaglets in the **Bald Eagle's** nest on Katchewanooka Lake. AJ had a **Brown Thrasher** singing near the golf course on Armour Rd. DS and Lori heard and observed **Chimney Swifts** over the Charlottee and George St. area in downtown area of Peterborough.
- Apr 30 AJ found a **Merlin** calling from the pines in Inverlea Park, and a **House Wren** singing in his backyard in East City. He also noted **Field Horsetail** growing to 3" tall in Rotary Park. DS and Lori had **Brown Thrasher**, **Yellow Warbler**, **Northern Waterthrush**, **Field Sparrow** and **Gray Tree Frog** in the Trent Wildlife Sanctuary. They also observed an **Upland Sandpiper** in flight crossing Hwy & B 1 km east of Emily Park Rd. JC observed a male **Red Crossbill** with a juvenile on his property on Clear Lake.
- May 01 Colin Jones observed a **Beaverpond Baskettail** dragonfly in his garden in Lakefield. John Fisher observed four **Caspian Terns** on a gravel bar in the Otonabee River behind the MNR building in Peterborough. AJ observed **Chimney Swifts** flying near the Quaker Oats plant.
- May 02 Both **Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs** were observed by Simon Dodsworth on the banks of the Otonabee River just south of the Hunter's Street bridge.
- May 03 Martha and Michael Butler heard **Brown Thrasher**, **Blue-headed Vireo**, **Great Crested Flycatcher**, **Least Flycatcher**, **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, **Nashville Warbler**, **Black-throated Green Warbler**, **Black-and-white Warbler**, **Ovenbird**, **Northern Waterthrush**, **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** and a **Red-headed Woodpecker** in Burleigh Township

- May 04 AJ watched a **House Sparrow** systematically checking out spider webs for a morning snack on the railway bridge south of the MNR building. He also had **Black-and-white Warbler, White-crowned Sparrows, and Warbling Vireo.**
- May 06 John and Shaun Fisher observed a male **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** compete with a male **Northern Cardinal** for sunflower seed at their feeder. The cardinal was definitely the dominant bird. Ken Fulsang observed a **Willet** with **Spotted Sandpipers** and **Killdeer** in a storm water retention pond by Denure Rd in the west end of Peterborough. **Canada Geese** goslings were also observed.
- May 07 Chris Risley leading the PFN Sunday morning walk to Miller Creek CA observed a **Sandhill Crane** flying over the marsh. Other birds of interest were **Blue-winged Teal, Sora, Osprey, Great-crested Flycatcher, Black-and-white Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Nashville Warbler** and **Yellow Warbler**. Just outside the county boundary in Fleetwood Creek CA SM saw **Blue-winged Warbler, Ovenbirds, Scarlet Tanager, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Black-and-white Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Hermit Thrush, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Ruffed Grouse, and Field Sparrow**. Outside the CA on Ballyduff Rd. he added **Eastern Bluebird, Northern Harrier,** and other regulars. John Fisher reported a female **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** at the feeder in his yard.
- May 08 Carrie Sadowski heard and saw her first **Baltimore Oriole** of the season in her yard south of Lakefield. Ken Fulsang observed a pair of **Upland Sandpipers** on, and beside, the road to Emerald Isle in Ennismore Twp.
- May 11 Jane Phillpott had a male **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** on her porch railing. She reported the return of **Eastern Bluebirds** to boxes on her property, and also observed **Gray Catbirds, Brown Thrashers, and White-throated Sparrows** singing in the area.
- May 13 Amongst a number of previously reported warblers along Cavan Creek SM observed **Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, and Ovenbird**. He also had **Wood Thrush** and **Pileated Woodpecker**.
- May 14 SM reported about forty **American Pipits** foraging in a corn field just NE of Cavan. He also found a **Solitary Sandpiper** along Cavan Creek. AJ and Sue Prentice, leading a PFN walk in the Trent Wildlife Sanctuary found a number a good birds despite the poor weather: **Northern Mockingbird, Northern Parula, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Eastern Kingbird, Field Sparrow, Great Crested Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Magnolia Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Red-eyed Vireo, Veery, Winter Wren, and Wood Thrush.**
- May 15 Rick Stankiewicz happened upon an **American Woodcock** nesting in a field behind his house on Hazel Crescent, south of County Rd 2 at the Assumption rd. intersection. JC noted a pair of **American Redstart** by his house in Fowler's Corners.
- May 17 DS heard a **Willow Flycatcher** singing by the Rotary Trail north of Trent University. He also heard or observed **Bay-breasted Warbler, Cape May Warbler, and Magnolia Warbler** amongst other more regular warblers, and a **Merlin**.
- May 20 On the island between the MNR building and the James Stevenson Park in East City AJ reported a singing **Canada Warbler**. JC saw a **Scarlet Tanager** near his cottage on Clear Lake
- May 21 JC saw another **Scarlet Tanager** and a **Blue-headed Vireo** near his house at Fowler's Corners. As reported by JC, an **American Bittern** has been present in the pond area back of the nursery (Griffin's?) south of Horlings, for a week or two. A **Green Heron** has also been present for a shorter period.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President	Heather Smith – 533 Paterson St, Ptbo, K9J 4P9	heatheraesmith@yahoo.ca	749-0304
Vice-President	Vacant		
Treasurer	Jim Young – 1269 Pulpit Rd, Ptbo, K9K 1H4	jbyoung@sympatico.ca	745-1398
Secretary	Emily Pettypiece – 18 Parkview Dr, Ptbo, K9H 5M6	donem.pettypiece@sympatico.ca	750-1145
Membership	George Maynard – 20 Elgeti Dr, RR#11 Ptbo, K9J 6Y3	vgmaynard@nexicom.net	749-1217
Program	Roger Jones – 81 Terraview Height, Ptbo, K9L 1M8	rjones@trentu.ca	742-0132
Program	Laura Kucey – 461 Gilmour St., Ptbo, K9H 2J8	lkucey@yahoo.ca	750-0803
Jr. Naturalists	Judy Hyland – 112 Water St., Lakefield, K0L 2H0	jdhyland@nexicom.net	652-8473
Projects	Mike McMurtry – 455 Albertus Ave, Ptbo, K9J 5Z9	michael.mcmurtry@sympatico.ca	748-5353
Projects	Dave Hambly – 123 Creekwood Dr, Ptbo, K9K 2C5	hambly1@cogeco.ca	876-7271
Orchid Editor	Rebecca Zeran – PO Box 345, Bridgenorth, K0L 1H0	rebecca.zeran@mail.mcgill.ca	292-9022
Publicity	Don Pettypiece – 18 Parkview Dr, Ptbo, K9H 5M6	donem.pettypiece@sympatico.ca	750-1145
Member at Large	Carrie Sadowski – 2064 Ann Ave, RR4 Ptbo, K9J 6X5	orchid@nexicom.net	652-1767
Stewardship	David Swales – 1574 Westbrook Dr, Ptbo, K9J 6R4	dswswales@sympatico.ca	743-7213
Book Sales	Anne Storey – 1458 Fair Ave, Ptbo, K9J 1G9		743-0345
FON Rep	Rhea Bringeman – RR2, Ptbo, K9J 6X3		742-1035

MEMBERSHIP

Memberships may be obtained at the monthly meeting from George Maynard or by mailing a copy of the application form below to: George Maynard, 20 Elgeti Dr, RR#11 Peterborough, ON, K9J 6Y3.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Tel. Home _____ Work _____ Email _____

Type of Membership and Fee Schedule (2006) – 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 _____