



The Orchid

Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists

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

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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>Wednesday March 8 7:30 pm Ptbo Public Library</p>	<p>Monthly Meeting: "Prevalence and significance of hybridization in Nature" Dr. Chris Wilson (Aquatic Biodiversity and Conservation Unit, MNR) will discuss the history, perceptions and differences of hybridization in plants and animals. He will explain the importance of hybrids in ecology and evolution, as well as their importance in agriculture and in conservation.</p>
<p>Wednesday March 15 7-9 pm Ptbo Public Library</p>	<p>Designing and Maintaining an Ecological Garden Please join us for an evening with Donna Havinga, landscape architect and co-author of "Restoring Nature's Place", as she guides us through the basic principles of ecological garden design while focusing on how to care for these spaces once you have created them. Bring your ideas and questions as there will be time for discussion. Free of charge. This event is brought to you courtesy of Peterborough Green-Up.</p>
<p>Sunday March 19 8:00 am</p>	<p>The Return of Waterfowl at Presqu'île Provincial Park Jerry Ball will lead us on a trip to Presqu'île for some early spring birding, which will surely include opportunities for viewing the 1000's of ducks, geese and swans that use Presqu'île as a resting spot on their return to their breeding grounds. Bring a lunch, binoculars and scope if you have one. Meet at the Country Style at the junction of Old Keene Road and Highway 7.</p>
<p>Friday March 31 7-9 pm Lindsay Gallery</p>	<p>All Things Bright and Beautiful: Two Perspectives of Kelly Dodge PFN member and local artist Kelly Dodge will be having her first solo art exhibition at the Lindsay Gallery. PFN members are invited to attend the show's opening reception on Friday March 31st, 7-9 p.m. Kelly's work will be on exhibit at the Gallery from April 1st, 2006 to May 2nd, 2006. A 'meet the artist' event will be held on Saturday, April 22nd, 1-3 pm. The Lindsay Gallery is located at 190 Kent Street in Lindsay, ON (705-324-1780). Visit Kelly's website for more information: www.natureartists.com/dodgek.htm</p>

COMING EVENTS continued...

<p>Wednesday April 12 7:30 pm</p> <p>Ptbo Public Library</p>	<p>Monthly Meeting: "Variability in life history and morphology of our native sunfish; what happens when you introduce it to another continent?"</p> <p>The pumpkinseed (<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>) is the only sunfish native to the Kawarthas. The native range of this species is from central and eastern Canada down to the parts of the U.S. midwest and as far south as South Carolina, but this species has been introduced into western North America, parts of South America and all over Europe. Professor Michael Fox (Trent University) will talk about the natural variation in the reproductive and morphological traits of this species in response to environmental factors and he will speak about his research in Europe, including the Iberian Peninsula where the pumpkinseed has become an invasive species.</p>
<p>Wednesday May 10 7:30 pm</p> <p>Ptbo Public Library</p>	<p>Monthly Meeting: "Biology and Behaviour of Steller Sea Lions"</p> <p>Steller sea lions range throughout the North Pacific and have experienced an 80% population decline in the past 30 years. Mystery and controversy surround Steller sea lions as the cause of this dramatic decline remains unclear. These large marine mammals are quite skittish and have quite distinctive behavioural traits. Laura Kucey (P.F.N.) will share some of her experiences living and conducting Steller sea lion research observations on remote islands in the North Pacific over the course of summer and winter months.</p>

IN MEMORIAM:

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of Stan Reiten (Stanley Victor) on February 15th, 2006. Stan was a long-time active member of the Peterborough Field Naturalist's Club and served for many years on the PFN Executive and assisted with FON conferences held in Peterborough. He was a professional engineer for over 35 years at the C.G.E. A memorial service will be arranged at a later date. If desired, donations may be made to the Heart & Stroke Foundation or the Canadian Cancer Society. The Club's condolences go out to Stan's family and friends.



JUNIOR FIELD NATURALISTS

Sunday
March 19th
2-4 pm

MAPLE SAP COLLECTION

Trivia question time! How many buckets of maple sap does it take to make one bucket of syrup? Is it 10 buckets, 20 buckets, or 40 buckets?



The sweet taste of March will see us tapping some maple trees at Camp Kawartha. I'll provide spiles, drills and buckets, but bring a container if you want to take some of your very own sap home to boil down. We will even try a little old fashioned tapping by making some spiles from sumac twigs. We will draw the line at girdling the trees to get the sap!

Come on out to Camp Kawartha (1010 Birchview Road, off Highway 28, north of Lakefield). See everyone then!

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
April issue:
Friday, March 24th, 2006**

Please send submissions to: Rebecca Zeran, 188 Parkhill Road East, Main Floor, Peterborough, ON, K9H 1R1, phone: 876-9399, rebecca.zeran@mail.mcgill.ca



New Members

*Doug Mason
Rob Macfie
David Bradley
Jacob Rodenburg*

Welcome!

COMMITTEE BUSINESS - PFN Board of Directors Meeting – 1 Feb 2006

Financial: LWCC received another Trillium check in fall 2005. The Club 'broke even' in 2005.

Membership: We have 5 new members for February. Forty-seven membership renewals are still outstanding.

Junior Naturalist: Judy Hyland will be taking over as the PFN Junior Field Naturalists representative.

Orchid: Bob and Noreen Quinn will be taking over the task of mailing the Orchid.

Projects: There will be a presentation on the LWCC in Lindsay on Feb 16th. Drew Monkman featured the LWCC in his weekly Examiner column. Mike is looking into setting up restoration projects on both public and private property; he hopes to have a project ready for spring. The PFN will join the Restoration Round Table (headed by Peterborough Green-Up).

Program: PFN indoor speakers have been booked through until the end of June 2006.

AGM: Feedback on the AGM and on Michael Runtz has been positive. Income from the various fundraisers at the AGM was as follows: bucket draw (\$510.00), silent art auction (\$155.00), silent book auction (\$160.00), book sales (\$100.00). The noise from the curling club was noted as a slight annoyance; for the next AGM we will look into a different venue.

Ontario Nature AGM: An organizational meeting for volunteers will be held at the ORCA building on February 7th. Roger will act as the event coordinator; he has already completed some preliminary work for the June 2007 event.

New Business: Roger provided an overview on the proposed Hydroelectric Project between Lock 22 and Lock 23 at Trent University. Concerns have been expressed about the impact that this project will have on the surrounding landscape and existing land uses. A letter will be sent by Heather Smith on behalf of the PFN to the Director of Waterpower Parks Canada Agency expressing our concerns and reservations about this hydro project.

**Large Woodlands Conservation
Cooperative's Fall Workshop:
Seed Collecting, October 2nd, 2005,
Ganaraska Forest Centre.**

Barb Boysen of the Forest Gene Conservation Association, sets up for a day-long workshop on seed identification and collecting.

Photo by: Peter Mabee

See the LWCC article on page 7 for more information!



Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Year ended 2005 December 31 with comparison shown for 2004

	2005	2004
Cash on Hand January 1	0.00	480.00
chequing account	3,598.17	2,077.89
bonds, gic	19,382.53	18,363.25
post office deposit account	196.31	275.20
TOTAL CASH AT YEAR START	23177.01	21196.34
RECEIPTS		
agm income	2,835.00	2,399.00
agm raffle	290.00	353.00
birdathon	0.00	92.00
books, card, & t-shirt sales	62.85	226.50
donations, charitable ¹	560.15	590.00
interest income	360.37	1,019.43
membership	3,664.00	3,235.00
Loan repayment	0.00	500.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	7,772.37	8,414.93
DISBURSEMENTS		
agm expenses	2,480.91	2,332.60
awards	0.00	0.00
bank charges	92.99	0.00
donations to other projects ²	1,000.00	256.61
insurance	1,110.56	525.00
jfn activities	0.00	0.00
memberships - FON	450.00	225.00
office	407.45	260.81
orchid printing, postage, envelopes	1,252.12	1,751.03
pfn meetings & hall rental	650.09	260.00
project - bird feeders & walks	164.33	220.64
project - Miller Creek tower repairs	0.00	151.31
project - Ecology Park sightings boards	0.00	238.12
project - large woodland operating exp. ³	0.00	35.00
program expenses	20.00	178.14
Repayable Loan	0.00	0.00
purchase books, cards, t-shirts	361.00	0.00
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	7,989.45	6,434.26
INFLOW - OUTFLOW	-217.08	1,980.67
Cash on Hand December 31	2.00	0.00
chequing account	3,146.66	3,598.17
bonds, gic	19,742.53	19,382.53
post office deposit account	68.74	196.31
TOTAL CASH AT YEAR END	22,959.93	23,177.01

NOTES:

1. Charitable donations received
Member's donations (460.15)
Sachi Imada (100.00)

Total Donations Received (560.15)

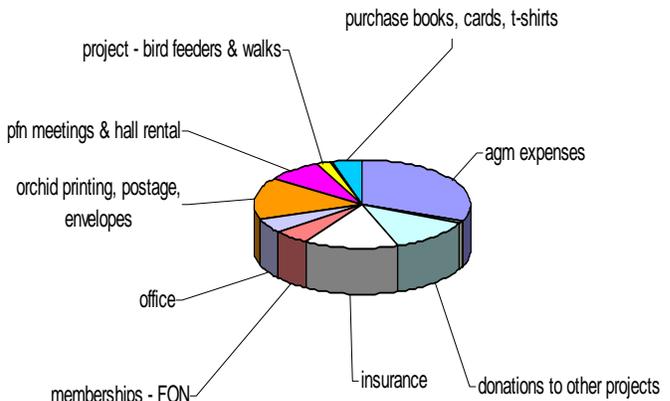
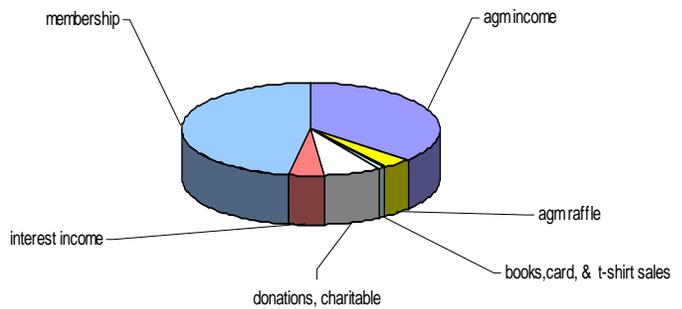
2. Donations made to other projects
Saw-Whet Owl Banding Program (150.00)
Science Fair (50.00)
Peterborough Public Library (100.00)
Otonabee Region Conservation Foundation (100.00)
Couchiching Conservancy re Windmill Ranch (500.00)
Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre (100.00)

Total Donations Made (1,000.00)

3. LWCC operating expenses
Now funded by Ontario Trillium Found'n Grant

Total LWCC expenses

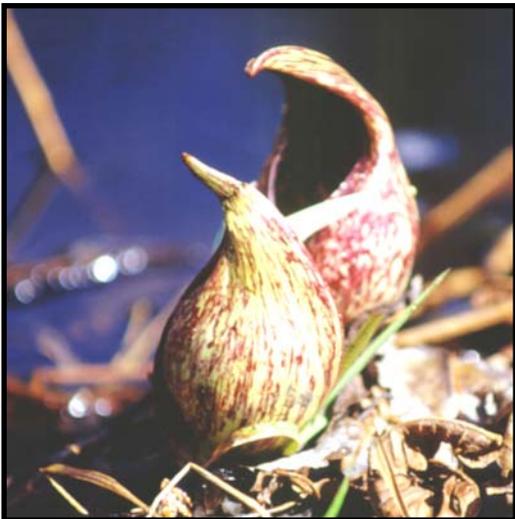
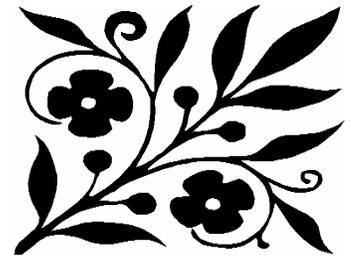
Source of Funds 2005



Use of Funds 2005

Large Woodland Conservation Cooperative Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Year ended 2005 December 31

Cash on Hand January 1	
chequing account	9,807.94
gic	35,000.00
TOTAL CASH AT YEAR START	44807.94
RECEIPTS	
Charitable Donations Received	
Trillium Grant	26,300.00
Interest Inc.	397.65
TOTAL INFLOWS	26,697.65
DISBURSEMENTS	
bank charges	151.30
Meals & Entertainment	33.47
Misc	34.31
office	1,259.22
Postage and Delivery	1,972.27
Printing and Reproduction	3,405.15
Publications	330.00
Salary, Wages	35,760.00
Travel, Bus	573.10
Tuition Fees	78.00
Workshops	1,521.48
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	45,118.30
INFLOW - OUTFLOW	-18,420.65
Cash on Hand December 31	80.00
chequing account	6,307.29
bonds, gic	20,000.00
TOTAL CASH AT YEAR END	26,387.29



Skunk Cabbage

(Symplocarpus foetidus).

Photograph by Rebecca Zeran.

This plant can maintain internal temperatures of over 20 degrees Celsius. Blooming in early spring, sometimes while the snow still remains, the skunk cabbage generates enough heat to melt the surrounding snow.

LARGE WOODLANDS CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE UPDATE

- by Danielle Tassie – Coordinator, Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative

Things have been busy here with the Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative (LWCC) since the Orchid last heard from us back in the fall. Since then the LWCC has wrapped up the first of our three-year outreach program, and are now well into our second year.

A bit of background for those of you who may be hearing of us for the first time; The LWCC was created (by landowners, naturalists, biologists, and foresters) in 1999 to provide stewardship information to local woodlot owners, whose properties make up large forests in and around the Kawarthas, and to promote the conservation of these unique ecosystems.

The results of a landowner survey helped give the LWCC an idea of forest owners' concerns and interests, as well as the best way of providing information and assistance to those interested. Based on these results, the LWCC organized several events for landowners throughout 2005. A workshop on "forest management & planning", a tree & bird ID forest hike, and an all day session on Seed Collecting were the first year's events. In addition we were able to provide information on other subjects (such as invasive species, species at risk, forest fragmentation) via newsletters, fact sheets, and our website (www.trentu.ca/org/woodlands)

Upcoming events for 2006 include new workshops on planning for tree planting, invasive species ID & management, more nature hikes, and (back by popular demand) a new workshop on seed collecting.

The LWCC is also working with local forest owners on several hands on forest restoration projects, and we continue to refer landowners to local organizations and stewardship programs. Keep an eye out for LWCC displays and talks throughout the year (I will be presenting more on the projects to the PFN this summer). You may also remember reading about the LWCC in an article by Drew Monkman in the Peterborough Examiner back in February!

You can always check our website for more information, and up to date events and news (www.trentu.ca/org/woodlands).

The work of the LWCC is possible due to the continued support of the individuals and organizations involved. This is particularly true of the Peterborough Field Naturalists who have been a vital partner since the inception of the LWCC; especially members Dave Hambly, Gord Mallory and Jim Young, whose dedication, time, and energy help ensure the LWCC continues to get its message out!

The LWCC always welcomes the expertise & interest of local naturalists. We are especially on the lookout for nature hike leaders! If you would like to get involved, or have your name added to the LWCC mailing list, please give us a call or e-mail.

Danielle Tassie – Coordinator,
Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative
lwcc@trentu.ca
(705) 748-1011 ext: 5068
Visit us on the web at
www.trentu.ca/org/woodlands



MEMBER OBSERVATIONS: BIRD BEHAVIOUR

"I had an interesting encounter yesterday with some sparrows. I went out in the afternoon and when I returned to my house someone mentioned to me that a male sparrow had just fallen from the sky onto the top of our garbage bin. When this person left, I went inside to get a small plastic bag, into which I could put the dead bird. When I came back out, the sparrow's mate was on the bin, trying her best to awaken the dead bird. She was so frantic about it, I didn't have the heart to disturb her. So I stood and watched for about 15 or 20 minutes, while she pecked at her partner and fluttered around him trying to get him up. Other sparrows from the flock flew in and sat nearby. One of them sang a song. Eventually I went over and collected the dead bird and unceremoniously put him into the garbage, but I was moved by the bond that obviously existed between these two birds."

- submitted by Rosemarie S. Mc Mechan on behalf of Wm. E. Doxtator in Bath, ON

"Animals are smart and seem to learn from each other's actions. One day I heard a Downy Woodpecker banging away on the side of the bird feeder at my house. He picked up a sunflower seed, rammed it into a crack and proceeded to open and eat it. On another day, a Nuthatch was going in and out of the bird feeder sideways. At the same time, a Tree Sparrow was also trying to get through the bars on the feeder, but was too wide to make it through. Next thing I knew, the Tree Sparrow changed his tactic and tried to get into the feeder sideways, copying the Nuthatch. On yet another day, the Red-breasted Nuthatch was perched on top of the feeder, looking down at a Cardinal who was sitting on the feeder sideways, taking up all the all the space to the feeder's entrance. The Nuthatch, not wanting to wait for the Cardinal to finish, flew down and pushed his way under the Cardinal's tail into the feeder. Then he came out with a seed and went under the Cardinal's tail again to exit."

- submitted by Rhea Bringeman



Downy Woodpecker. Photograph by Rebecca Zeran



Northern Flicker. Photograph by Rebecca Zeran

FINCHES AND EAGLES IN NORTHERN PETERBOROUGH COUNTY

- Submitted by Tony Bigg

A PFN field trip led by Jerry Ball was held on Sunday, February 19. Starting at the parking lot of the Riverview Park eleven participants traveled up the Otonabee River to Lakefield, where the two Mute Swans were seen behind the arena. Traveling from there along the Old Young's Point Rd. to Young's Point a pair of Red-tailed Hawks were well seen sitting and flying in the bright sunshine, a lone Bald Eagle was seen in a tree overlooking Lake Katchewanooka. Hooded and Common Mergansers, and Common Goldeneyes were in the lake at Young's Point. The next leg up to Apsley and down Jack's Lake Road added some of the winter finches we wished to see, with American Goldfinch, Common Redpoll, and Evening Grosbeak. A stop at 945 Cty Rd 504 could not find the Gray Jays, although the owner assured us that they were still coming to the feeder. He also said that he had been feeding a Great Grey Owl in his back yard! The return trip down Cty rd 46 and back to Peterborough via Division Rd, added only one bird of significance, a Ruffed Grouse see by only one person. The full list of birds seen follows:

- Mute Swan
- Mallard
- Common Goldeneye
- Hooded Merganser
- Common Merganser
- Bald Eagle
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Ruffed Grouse
- Rock Pigeon
- Mourning Dove
- Downy Woodpecker
- Hairy Woodpecker
- Blue Jay
- American Crow
- Common Raven
- Black-capped Chickadee
- Red-breasted Nuthatch
- White-breasted Nuthatch
- European Starling
- House Finch
- Common Redpoll
- Pine Siskin
- American Goldfinch
- Evening Grosbeak
- House Sparrow



TORONTO ADOPTS GUIDELINES TO PREVENT BIRD COLLISIONS

- from *Bird Studies Canada Latest News* (submitted by June Hitchcox)

2 February 2006 - City Council unanimously adopted a resolution on 31 January that will protect migratory birds through controlling light from buildings, public education, and bird rescue. For all new buildings in Toronto, the resolution specifies "that the needs of migratory birds be incorporated into the Site Plan Review process with respect to facilities for lighting, including floodlighting, glass, and other bird-friendly design features." Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker states "This is a historic day - The City of Toronto, instead of having 10,000 birds killed downtown each year, is working toward saving 10,000 birds. That's a magnificent thing for the City to do."

The Fatal Light Awareness Program (FLAP), a Toronto-based charitable organization, has been working to address the issue of bird collisions with structures since 1993. It was the first organization of its kind in the world; similar organizations have since sprung up in Chicago and New York.

"FLAP has dreamed of this day. Finally, through policy, a city has recognized the need to address the tragedy of bird collisions with its buildings and is setting an example for other cities around the world to take action." says Michael Measure of FLAP.

Bird Studies Canada has sent a letter of congratulations to the Mayor and Council of Toronto.

COBOURG-WHITBY LAKESHORE PFN FIELD TRIP

- by Tony Bigg, Trip Leader

On Sunday, February 12th six PFN members explored the Lake Ontario shoreline from Cobourg west to Whitby. The weather was cold, -16 degrees C to -3 degrees C but beautifully sunny with a light wind. Stops were made at Cobourg harbour, Port Hope harbour and nearby lake frontage, Lakeshore Road from Port Hope to Bondhead (Newcastle), and Whitby (Thickson's Woods, Pringle Creek, Whitby Harbour, Lynde's Shores, and Hall's Road). The highlights of the trip, taking into account the time of the year, were two Northern Shrikes (Port Hope and Lakeshore Road), about 2000 Snow Buntings (Lakeshore Road), Horned Larks (Lakeshore Road), Great Blue Heron (Pringle's Creek), Iceland Gull (Whitby Harbour), Wood Duck, Brown-headed Cowbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Rusty Blackbird (all at Lynde's Shores), and Barred Owl (really close look) and Song Sparrow (Hall's Road). The participants enjoyed the experience of the many Chickadees feeding from their hands in Lynde's Shores.

The full list of species seen (45) is as follows:

- Great Blue Heron
- Trumpeter Swan
- Mute Swan
- Canada Goose
- Wood Duck
- American Black Duck
- Mallard
- Greater Scaup
- Long-tailed Duck
- Common Goldeneye
- Bufflehead
- Hooded Merganser
- Common Merganser
- Northern Harrier
- Red-tailed Hawk
- *Accipiter* Species (probably Cooper's but it never showed its tail)
- American Kestrel
- Ring-billed Gull
- Herring Gull
- Iceland Gull
- Great Black-backed Gull
- Rock Pigeon
- Mourning Dove
- Barred Owl
- Downy Woodpecker
- Hairy Woodpecker
- Horned Lark
- Blue Jay
- American Crow
- Black-capped Chickadee
- White-breasted Nuthatch
- Golden-crowned Kinglet
- Northern Shrike
- European Starling
- Northern Cardinal
- American Tree Sparrow
- Song Sparrow
- Dark-eyed Junco
- Snow Bunting
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Rusty Blackbird
- Brown-headed Cowbird
- House Finch
- Pine Siskin
- American Goldfinch
- House Sparrow



June Hitchcox submitted the following tidbit learned from a delightful book by Linda Johns called *Birds of a Feather - Tales of a Wild Bird Haven*:

"To find out whether a Blue Jay is male or female, observe the width of their tail. By studying copulation, the author observed that female Blue Jays have narrow tails and males have wide ones."



The **ORCHID DIARY** for Dec 2005 to Feb 2006

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

- Nov 27 Colin Jones (CJ) reported a flock of about 15 **Pine Grosbeaks** by the Otonabee River south of Lakefield. Erica Nol had wood chips falling on her head as a **Pileated Woodpecker** worked an old maple tree on Weller just west of Queen Mary school. She also reported the return of the **Northern Flicker** had returned to their backyard feeder on Gilmour Street.
- Nov 28 Jerry Ball (JB) found a **Merlin** in Little Lake cemetery, and 11 **Pine Grosbeaks** (no adult males) in the Cavan area
- Dec 03 JB had a **Bald Eagle** on Sandy Lake Road and **Evening Grosbeaks** in the Oak Lake area
- Dec 04 Carrie Sadowski had 3 female **Pine Grosbeaks** at her feeder on the 7th Line of Smith south of Lakefield.
- Dec 05 Michael Gillespie (MG) observed an immature **Peregrine Falcon** on Duncan Line just north of Baseline. He watched as it sat on fencepost devouring a small bird that he had previously seen it chasing. Ben Walters (BW) had 17 **Bohemian Waxwings** just north of Lakefield College School on Cty Rd 29, 5 **Evening Grosbeaks** and a **Bald Eagle** in the Petroglyphs PP just west of McGinnis Lake, 20 **Bohemian Waxwings** and a **Pine Siskin** where the main road meets the Hydro corridor 2km before the Petroglyphs (?). He had 8 **Ruffed Grouse** and many **Brown Creepers**, **Red-breasted Nuthatches**, a few **White-breasted Nuthatches**, many **Black-capped Chickadees** and **Blue Jays** in the same area. Benjamin also had an **American Kestrel** across from Kawartha Racetrack and Slots.
- Dec 06 JB reported a **Common Raven** and **Wild Turkeys** on Lakehurst Rd near Buckhorn
- Dec 07 Ken Rumble (KR) counted 7 **Pine Grosbeaks** and 3 **Cedar Waxwings** in Highland Park Cemetery on River rd South in Peterborough.
- Dec 08 On a trip north of Lakefield JB had 100 **Snow Buntings** near the junction of Strickland Rd. and Hwy 28. He also had about a hundred **Common Mergansers**, 2 **Hooded Mergansers** and 1 **Bald Eagle** on Katchawanooka Lake. He added another **Bald Eagle** dive-bombing a **Common Merganser** on Clear Lake
- Dec 09 BW found a late **Red-necked Grebe** feeding amongst a large flock of Canada Geese south of Trent University.
- Dec 10 50 **Wild Turkeys** were seen by KR on Kawartha Lakes Rd 38, 8km north of Bethany. CJ found a single female **Hooded Merganser** on the Otonabee River just north of Lock 22, about 10 **Pine Grosbeaks** at his feeder on Nassau St in Lakefield, and a large flock of **Bohemian Waxwings** (100+) near the Horlings Garden Centre south of Lakefield. The same flock of **Bohemian Waxwings** was also reported by Don Sutherland (DS) who added an adult (probably female) **Cooper's Hawk** in the vicinity of Franklin Drive/Cumberland Ave in Peterborough's north end, and an adult **Sharp-shinned Hawk** on Water Street between McDonnell and London Sts.
- Dec 11 DS checked out the flock of **Bohemian Waxwings** at Horlings Garden centre and estimated it had grown to 150 to 200 birds, and also noted that it contained a few **Cedar Waxwings**. On Cty Rd 6 at Cty Rd 40 he saw a flock of 22 **Wild Turkey** foraging, and although the Petroglyphs PP was quiet he managed to find **Black-capped Chickadee**, **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, **Golden-crowned Kinglet**, **Brown Creeper**, **Common Raven**, 3 **Evening Grosbeaks**, 8 **Common Redpolls**, and 1 **Red Crossbill**.
- Dec 13 JB had 12 **Common Redpolls** on Anstruther Lake Rd and 28 on Jack Lake Rd where he also had 6 **Pine Grosbeaks**, 2 **Red Crossbills**, and 6 **Evening Grosbeaks**. He added a **Ruffed Grouse** on Sandy Lake Rd, a **Pileated Woodpecker** at the entrance to the Petroglyphs PP, **Snow Buntings** on Cty Rd 6, and then found the now estimated 300 **Bohemian Waxwings** at Horlings Garden Centre south of Lakefield. Bill Stone observed a grey phase **Gyr Falcon** flying east above Hwy 28 between Bailieboro and South Monaghan. It appeared to have just taken off from the west side of the highway.
- Dec 14 Gail Heffernan reported a late **Great Blue Heron** perched on a partially frozen creek in Springville. It had been in the area all through the summer and the fall. An estimate of the **Bohemian Waxwing** flock near Horlings by Brian Wyatt was now up to 500 to 600 birds!! Brian also had a **Belted Kingfisher** on a small stream exiting Sandy Lake west of Buckhorn.

- Dec 15 Peter Burke reported that a male **Red-winged Blackbird** was coming to his parents home on University Rd. Brian Wyatt saw a flock of 200 **Snow Buntings** on Tara Rd near Gannon's Narrows. He also had an immature **Northern Shrike** at his feeder in Gannon Bay
- Dec 17 Mike and Robi Oldham saw a **Great Blue Heron** flying over the intersection of the Old Keene Rd. and Hwy 7.
- Dec 21 Doug Fowler reported a **Brown Thrasher** coming to his backyard at 493 Cty Rd 6 (old Stony Lake Rd). It had been feeding on Virginia Creeper berries. BW sighted an adult **Bald Eagle** on Armour Rd slightly south of Nassau Mills Rd.
- Dec 22 DS noted a flock of about 30 **Wild Turkeys** foraging along a hedgerow on the east side of Hwy 115 just south of Tapley 1/4 Line.
- Dec 24 KR found a **Great Horned Owl** by Hwy 115 1km south of the Parkway junction on the south side.
- Dec 26 DS found another flock of about 29 **Wild Turkeys** on Cty Rd 10 north of the junction with Syer Line, just south of Hwy 115.
- Jan 01 The OFO trip to the Peterborough area found a **Gray Jay** at a feeder at #945 on Hwy 540 east of Apsley, flocks of **Evening Grosbeaks** and **Common Redpolls** coming to feeders on Jacks Lake Rd, 1 **Snow Bunting** north of Apsley, 2 **Bald Eagles** and several **Common Ravens** on Sandy Lake Rd, 5 **American Robins** and a **Belted Kingfisher** on the Otonabee River, and a **Northern Goshawk** on Division Rd east of Peterborough. Other good sightings were many **Common Goldeneyes**. 2 **Mute Swans** and several **Common Mergansers** on Lake Katchewanooka. In the Petroglyphs PP DS had an adult **Bald Eagle**, **Ruffed Grouse**, **Pileated Woodpecker**, **Hairy Woodpecker**, **Common Raven**, **White-breasted Nuthatch**, 2 **Red-breasted Nuthatches**, **Brown Creeper**, **Black-capped Chickadees**, 2 **Golden-crowned Kinglets**, and 4 **Pine Grosbeaks**. Emily and Don Pettipiede had 8 female **Pine Grosbeaks** feeding in a Mountain Ash tree in their yard. Eleanor and Eileen Beagan found about 50 **Bohemian Waxwings** just north of Riverview Park
- Jan 02 Martyn Obbard had a visit from a small flock (~20) **Common Redpolls** at his feeder about 8km west of Buckhorn off Lakehurst Rd.
- Jan 03 MG saw an immature **Bald Eagle** flying over his farm on Fife Line, south of Cty Rd 2.
- Jan 04 On a misty morning in the Gannons Narrows area, Bryan Wyatt found an immature **Northern Shrike** at the intersection of Anchor Bay and Lakehurst Rds, 3 **Pine Grosbeaks** on Anchor Bay Rd, a flock of about 100 **Snow Buntings** in the barnyard of the Irwin farm on Tara Rd at Gannon Line, 9 **Pine Siskins** and a **Pileated Woodpecker** at his cottage on Gannon Bay.
- Jan 05 Tony Bigg found a **Merlin** near the Junction of 5th Line of Duoro and Lynch's Rock Rd, an adult **Bald Eagle** flying over the Otonabee River south of Lakefield, and a female **Hooded Merganser** by the old bus barns on River Rd by the river. JB and Anne Anthony had another **Merlin** in the parking lot of Thomas A. Stewart SS, and probably the same adult **Bald Eagle** at the Nassau Mills bridge. Mike Parker also saw an adult **Bald Eagle** in the same area.
- Jan 10 Joe Knauer watched a **Bald Eagle** soaring high above the Kawartha Nordic Ski trail near Apsley.
- Jan 12 BW found at least 2 **Lapland Longspurs** among a flock of 100-150 **Snow Buntings** at the corner of Atchinson Rd and S. Monaghan 6th Line.
A flock of 80-100 **Bohemian Waxwings** in the Trent Wildlife Sanctuary was found by BW, on the Blue Trail across from the ball diamond **American Robins** and **Pine Grosbeaks** were in the same area.
- Jan 15 Michael and Martha Butler had up to 120 **Common Redpolls** coming to their feeder near Viamede Resort. Also, whilst watching Evening Grosbeaks at a feeder on Lakeview Rd (off Northey's Bay Rd) they heard and they had great views of a male **Red Crossbill**.
- Jan 16 Whilst traveling the trails of the Trent Wildlife Sanctuary Benjamin Walters found 80 to 100 **Bohemian Waxwings** and a number of **American Robins**. He also had a flyover of **Pine Grosbeaks**.
- Jan 17 JB found 2 **Glaucous Gulls** on the ice on Little Lake, and a **Cooper's Hawk** in Little Lake Cemetery.
- Jan 20 Traveling east and north of Peterborough JB saw 25 **Bohemian Waxwings** near Oak Lake and one **Ruffed Grouse** on the Old Norwood Road.
- Jan 21 Today and for the previous two weeks Evelyn Raab has been seeing a **Red-bellied Woodpecker** coming to her suet feeder in the Millbrook area
- Feb 01 Maureen Smith saw two **Great Horned Owls** between Wildwood Farm and the 9th Line of Duoro on the Warsaw Rd.

- Feb 02 A report by John Fisher described the interaction of ducks by the MNR in Peterborough - 'Over the past week or so I've noticed a male **Common Goldeneye** keeping a female **Common Merganser** company out there - they have been diving together. A couple of days ago a male and female Common Goldeneye joined the odd pair... the first male as been aggressively keeping the second male away from his Merganser partner. Hopefully he gets over his odd obsession before long.' In Trent's Otonabee College Benjamin Walters encountered an early **Spider Wasp** hunting around the light fixtures, by far his earliest sighting of this wasp.
- Feb 04 JB found 52 **Wild Turkeys** on the Selwyn Road, a **Bald Eagle** on its nest on Lake Katchivanooka, and 8 **Bohemian Waxwings** on the 14th Line of Smith.
- Feb 07 John Cavanagh (JC) and Doug Sadler had two **Wild Turkeys** near Fowler's Corner. Jane Philpott reported the presence of a **Great Grey Owl** just north of the bridge at Gannon's Narrows.
- Feb 10 JC's **Wild Turkeys** north of Fowler's Corners had increased to 24
- Feb 10 A **Cooper's Hawk** was seen by JC near the Junction of Chemong Road and Highway 7B.
- Feb 19 Scott McKinlay had a flock of 25-30 **Bohemian Waxwings** in the woods near his house in Cavan.
- Feb 20 A flock of about a dozen **Bohemian Waxwings** was found by DS, in the Trent Wildlife Sanctuary on the west side of University Road. Tim Dyson had two **Great Gray Owls** on the 14th Line of Smith. He also reports feeding a mouse to a **Great Gray Owl** in the backyard of Kelly Dodge's house on the 12th line of Smith near Northey's Rd a few days previously.
- Feb 21 Tony Bigg, Doug Sadler, and Bob Lemon saw a flock of 30 **Evening Grosbeaks** at a feeder in the centre of Lakehurst village.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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MEMBERSHIP

Memberships may be obtained at the monthly meeting from George Maynard or by mailing a copy of the application form below to P.O. Box 1532, Peterborough, ON, K9J 7H7.

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 _____