



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

Sundays
April 22nd to
June 3rd
8:00 am

Ptbo Zoo
Parking Lot



Spring Sunday morning bird walks

Sunday morning bird walks return for another season! These "walks" last about 2 hours and will be held every Sunday from April 22 to June 3. 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:

May 6: Martha Allen and Michael Butler

May 20: Myles Falconer

June 3: Simon Dodsworth and Cathy Darevic

May 13: Drew Monkman

May 27: Jerry Ball (*special outing to Carden Plain, see below for details*)

Wednesday
May 9th
7:30 pm

Ptbo
Public
Library

PFN Monthly Meeting: "Blowin' in the Wind"

Wind erosion affects all continent of the Earth. In North America, the Great Dust Bowl was a natural disaster that severely affected much of the Great Plains and southern Prairies during the 1930s. With global warming and an ever increasing demand for resources, the problem is escalating in selected regions. Cheryl McKenna-Neuman (Trent University) will present an examination of several of the underlying causes of dustbowls and provide an overview of certain aspects of state-of-the art research taking place both internationally, and here in Ontario.

We need volunteers to help out with the Ontario Nature AGM, being held here in Peterborough on June 8-10! Give Roger a call (748-0132) or send him an email (rjones@trentu.ca) if you have some time to spare.

COMING EVENTS continued

<p>May 27th 7:00 am</p> <p>Sobey's parking lot (Lansdowne Street)</p>	<p>Carden Plain Important Bird Area (IBA)</p> <p>Guided by Jerry Ball, we will head out to the Carden Plain, a rare alvar habitat that supports an abundance of rare grassland birds. The Carden Plain is a popular destination for bird, butterfly, and plant watchers alike. At only 65 km from Peterborough, it offers globally rare alvar habitat supporting an abundance of grassland birds, including the endangered Loggerhead Shrike and the rare Golden-wing Warbler plus Osprey, Black Terns, Sedge Wrens, Yellow Rails, Upland Sandpipers, Blues Birds, Eastern Towhees, and Brown Thrashers. This is an all day trip, please bring a lunch, water and your binoculars! Meet at Sobey's parking lot on Lansdowne Street at 7am on May 27th.</p>
<p>June 8-10</p> <p>Trent University</p>	<p>2007 Annual General Meeting and Conference <i>The Kawarthas: Landscapes of Transition</i></p> <p>The Peterborough Field Naturalists host Ontario Nature's 76th Annual General Meeting and Conference. Join us at Trent University for exciting field trips, informative programs and innovative ideas. More information and registration forms are available and on the club's website: www.peterboroughnature.org.</p>
<p>Sunday June 17th 10:00 am - noon</p> 	<p>Mark S. Burnham Provincial Park Woodland Tour</p> <p>Dave Pridham, the coordinator of the Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative, will lead a tour through Mark S. Burnham Provincial Park. The tour will feature a discussion of large woodland / old growth features and values in this woodland. Current management practices in upland hardwood forests will be discussed, along with some of the issues we are being confronted with (e.g., invasive plants and shrubs, beech bark disease, and insects such as the emerald ash borer), and some basic tree species identification. Please bring rain gear if necessary, appropriate foot gear for walking through forest trails, appropriate clothing and gear for the insect season and a water bottle. Please meet in the parking lot of Mark S. Burnham Provincial Park at 10 am. Contact Dave for more information: 705-748-1011 ext. 5068.</p>

JUNIOR FIELD NATURALISTS

<p>Sunday May 20th</p> <p>2:00 pm</p> 	<p>EXPLORING @ the TRENT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY</p> <p>On Sunday May 20th we will explore the Trent Wildlife Sanctuary Trails to see what may be stirring, calling, slithering or otherwise moving about. Meet at the trailhead just off University Road at 2:00 p.m. Bring a net if you have one (I'll provide some for those who don't have their own) so that we can see the critters up close.</p>
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First 2007 PFN Sunday Spring Outing - April 22

- by Tony Bigg

On a beautiful warm, sunny morning, led by Jerry Ball, a dozen members met at Riverview Park at 8 a.m. where a single Cedar Waxwing put in an appearance. We drove up the Centre Line of Smith and west on Smith 7th Line to Millers Creek. Stopping at the junction of the 5th Line by a run-off pond we were entertained by Wilson's Snipe winnowing overhead and calling. For most of the group the sighting of Barn Swallows was new for the year. Eastern Meadowlarks were singing from the top of the hedgerows. From the tower at Millers Creek we had good looks at Swamp Sparrows, back in large numbers during the previous night. Barb MacDonald pointed out where she had twice seen Sandhill Cranes land amongst the Cattails, but although we did not see the birds there we did all get good looks at one later at the south end of the trail. Wood Ducks flew by, and in the distance we picked out a female Northern Harrier scanning the marsh, and a Common Loon flying towards Lake Chemong. A pair of Osprey and a Great Blue Heron also did a fly-by. Both Golden- and Ruby-crowned Kinglets were singing in the cedars. At the south end of the trail more Wilson's Snipes were active, and the Tree Swallows were back in their nest boxes. A Pileated Woodpecker was calling and eventually flew by us. On our way out a female Coopers Hawk flew closely overhead. A great morning!

Trip List:	Great Blue Heron	Canada Goose	Eastern Meadowlark
	Wood Duck	Mallard	Dark-eyed Junco
	Osprey	Northern Harrier	Red-winged Blackbird
	Coopers Hawk	Sandhill Crane	Swamp Sparrow
	Killdeer	Wilson's Snipe	Northern Cardinal
	Ring-billed Gull	Rock Pigeon	Song Sparrow
	Mourning Dove	Pileated Woodpecker	Common Grackle
	Eastern Phoebe	Tree Swallow	House Sparrow
	Barn Swallow	Blue Jay	European Starling
	American Crow	Black-capped Chickadee	American Robin
	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Cedar Waxwing



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	Don Pettypiece – 18 Parkview Dr, Ptbo, K9H 5M6	donem.pettypiece@sympatico.ca	750-1145
Program	Roger Jones – 81 Terraview Height, Ptbo, K9L 1M8	rjones@trentu.ca	742-0132
Program	Laura Kucey – c/o PFN, PO Box 1532, Ptbo, K9J 7H7	lkucey@yahoo.com	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	Rob Macfie -	publicity@peterboroughnature.org	745-1243
Webmaster	Chris Gooderham -	webmaster@peterboroughnature.org	740-2081
Stewardship	David Swales – 1574 Westbrook Dr, Ptbo, K9J 6R4	dwswales@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

Another Environmental Assessment - Screening Report about the proposed hydroelectric project at the Locks 22 and 23 dams of the Otonabee River is now available

- by Roger Jones

The fourth draft of the Environmental Assessment - Screening Report by Trent Rapids Power Corporation, jointly owned by the Peterborough Utility Corp and the Toronto based private Shaman Power Corp., for the excavation of a 1.2 km long canal to carry water from upstream of the dam at lock 23 along the narrow west bank of the Otonabee River to an electricity generation station to be constructed on land about 80 m below the dam at lock 22, has been published. Water will re-enter the river below the Lock 22 dam.

This proposed project is a very small project in terms of the amount of electricity to be generated - between 6 and 8 megawatts, depending on the flow rate of the river. However, it will cause immeasurable environmental damage to a 1.2 km long stretch of the west bank of the Otonabee River. Over 8 ha of vegetation, equivalent to about 10 soccer fields, is to be cleared, most of which is relatively mature, closed canopy, mixed hardwoods-conifer woodland that contains 150 year old sugar maples, beech and century old white cedars. The fall colour display along this stretch of riverbank is magnificent. The woodland will be split into two parts and, because the canopy will be opened up by clear cutting for the canal and associated dykes, the remaining woodlots will become heavily infested with thickets of European buckthorn. Chain link fences along both sides of the canal will cut off access to the river for wildlife for a 1.2 km stretch from above the dam at lock 23 to below the dam at lock 22. Excavated rock and overburden is to be piled up to a height of nearly 6 m and will cover an area of about 2 ha (2.5 soccer fields) at the edge of Woodland Drive. Much of this spoil pile will cover wetland. The dykes will rise to a height of nearly 8 m at the powerhouse.

Members of the PFN have opposed the excavation of the canal because of the tremendous environmental damage to be caused to the west bank of the Otonabee River. All, though, are in favour of developing projects that produce green electrical power but not if the environmental damage will be significant and outweigh the benefits to be attained, and especially when there are alternative options for power generation using the same sites, as is the case for the dams at Locks 22 and 23.

The Locks 22 and 23 dams are old, 110 years, and eventually will need to be refurbished or be replaced by Parks Canada. This option would be the time to construct generators into the dams for producing electricity and thus avoid the damage to the west bank environment. Also by then it should become apparent how effective electricity conservation has become. However, the Ontario government (tax payers) currently is heavily subsidizing the generation of electricity by small projects (less than 200 megawatts) and is expediting these projects by requiring minimal environmental assessment, a process termed environmental screening. In the case of this particular project, since there are alternative options for generating electricity using the dams at Locks 22 and 23, a full environmental assessment should be undertaken. This project also flies in the face of the use of and zoning of lands in the Official Plan for the City of Peterborough. The current Trent University Administration and Board of Governors deleted nature area protection (assigned by the University Administration, Senate, and Board of Governors in 1990) from much of this land by declaring that the property is now "vacant land" and the river bank is undeveloped land so that this project could go ahead. This change in land use designation was part of a deal for the \$2 million provided by City Council from City taxpayers towards construction of the DNA building on the Symons Campus).

If you haven't walked this absolutely delightful stretch of Otonabee River bank then you can park in the north parking lot of the Symons Campus on the west bank of the Otonabee, walk up to and

cross the Lock 23 dam, go a short distance along the River Road towards Lakefield and join the Rotary Greenway Trail which will take you south back to the campus buildings and the pedestrian bridge over the river. It is then a short walk back to the north parking lot.

Details of the proposed project, the environmental study and proposed remedial work can be seen on the TRPC website at www.trentrapidspowercorp.ca. Paper copies of

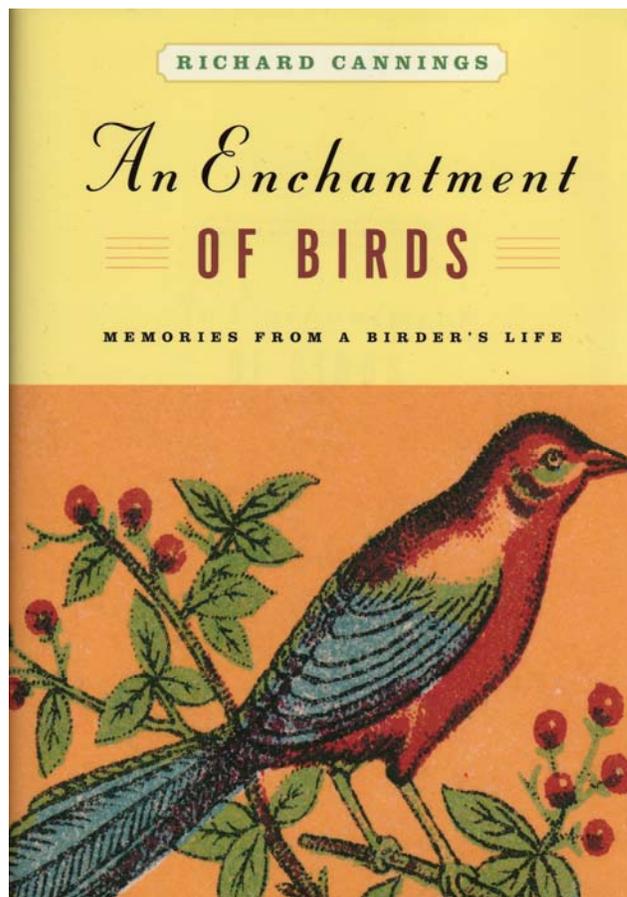
the Screening Report can be consulted at the Trent Severn Waterway Offices, the PUC offices, the Peterborough City and the Lakefield libraries and at the reference desk in the Bata Library at Trent University. The public has been invited to comment on this project. Comments about the project and the Screening Report are to be sent to the Director of Water Power at the Trent Severn Waterway offices on Ashburnham. Comments have to be written and be submitted by May 14th, 2007.

NEW BOOK RELEASE: *An Enchantment of Birds* – by Richard Cannings

- from a press release from www.greystonebooks.com

When Richard Cannings was growing up in British Columbia's Okanagan Valley, the songs of the meadowlarks rang through his bedroom window as the morning sky brightened; now meadowlark songs mean home. Cannings describes various aspects of the birds' natural history, including how they tuck their nests deep into a hollow beside a clump of grass, where they are so completely hidden that he has seen only two in his entire life.

In this series of delightful meditations, the author weaves his personal experiences with fascinating descriptions of the behaviour, anatomy, and evolution of birds from all across North America. Other birds described include the northern gannet, the saw-whet owl, and the trumpeter swan. These nuggets of birdlife cover the continent, from the shores of the Atlantic, across the alpine tundra of the Rocky Mountains, to the Pacific Ocean.



10th Annual Huron Fringe Birding Festival

MacGregor Point is home to one of Ontario's most popular festivals, The Huron Fringe Birding Festival, which features guided birding, nature and heritage excursions and workshops. Attracting wildlife enthusiasts from across Canada and United States for the past 10 years this eight-day festival celebrates the return of neotropical migrant songbirds and so much more. Now less than two months away, bird lovers, known as "birders", are busy sending their registration forms for this year 19's programs and events.

This provincially recognized festival runs from **Friday, May 25 to Monday, May 28 and from Thursday, May 31 to Sunday, June 3, 2007**. Learn and be entertained by many expert naturalists from across Ontario. Come for one day, one weekend, or the entire eight days. BBQ lunches and home-cooked style dinners are provided at a reasonable cost. The Festival is held at MacGregor Point Provincial Park, just south of Port Elgin on the beautiful shores of Lake Huron.

As a convenience to attendees and to ensure that all visiting the Festival have a great experience, there are limited numbers of participants allotted per programmed event. This ensures that those just beginning to learn about nature as well as those who are "more expert in their field" will be guaranteed a more memorable experience. Anyone who has not pre-registered can still enjoy a satisfying visit with a diverse program offered over two weekends.

Festival fees, complete program details and pre-registration forms and contact emails are available at www.friendsofmacgregor.org Please phone 519-389-2444 (before April 16) or 519-389-6232 or 519-389-6231 for more details.

North American Native Plant Society (NANPS) Annual Spring Sale

Too many urban yards are devoid of food and habitat for birds, butterflies, pollinators and other beneficial creatures. Native plants, the species that existed here long before the arrival of settlers, create that habitat far better than the alien species commonly sold at the corner store.

Native plants, because they are adapted to local conditions, require NO WATERING, NO PESTICIDES, and NO FERTILIZERS. Once they're established, they simply continue to thrive through summer droughts and winter freezes.

At this huge annual event, NANPS offers expert advice, free seminars, information booths from a variety of environmental groups; and hundreds of different indigenous species suitable for the diverse conditions found across the Greater Toronto Area. All NANPS plants are guaranteed to be locally native, ethically propagated, and environmentally friendly.

Proceeds from this sale go to support NANPS mandate: to study, conserve, cultivate and restore North America's native flora. The North American Native Plant Society is a volunteer-based registered charitable organization established in 1984. Visit www.nanps.org for more information.

Native Wildflowers, Ferns, Grasses, Shrubs and Trees at the Markham Civic Centre, Atrium
101 Town Centre Boulevard (Hwy 7 at Warden Ave.)
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3
Saturday, May 5, 2007, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Carden Nature Festival – June 15th to June 17th, 2007

The Carden Alvar is one of the top birding spots in Ontario for nesting grassland and shrubland birds. It also features the special plants that grow on alvars, a globally rare habitat. Hundreds of nature-lovers have helped protect these unique habitats.

The first Carden Nature Festival promises something new for people at all levels. In the company of expert guides, start at dawn with a hike among the chorus of birds. Learn to identify sparrows by ear. Paddle your canoe through a quiet swamp or enjoy an introduction to fly-fishing. Try your hand at nature photography or get expert gardeners' tips on how to attract birds and butterflies to your yard. See the plants, butterflies, and dragonflies of the alvar up close. Take an evening walk to hear the sounds of frogs, birds, and owls, or explore the stars of the June sky.

And there's more to enjoy as you explore the history and pleasures of the area: a ghost tour, a visit to a Mennonite farmers' market, a Friday evening ceilidh with local fiddlers, an elegant tea at a historic mansion – over 30 activities in all.

Choose your own suite of activities at a reasonable cost but entry is limited and first-come first-served. To get your choice REGISTER NOW!! For more information and registration details, visit www.cardenguide.com You must pre-register. Individual and family Festival passes are available.

Hosted by The Couchiching Conservancy, Carden Field Naturalists, Orillia Naturalists Club, Kawartha Field Naturalists, Carden Plain Important Bird Area, and City of Kawartha Lakes. Financial support is provided by Casino Rama and Invenergy Canada.

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 June issue:
Friday, May 25th, 2007**

Please send all submissions to:
Rebecca Zeran, P.O. Box 345, Bridgenorth, ON, K0L 1H0
or via e-mail to: rebecca.zeran@mail.mcgill.ca



The migration of four Alberta Peregrine Falcons in autumn 2006

- by Geoff Holroyd and Helen Trefry, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Room 200, 4999 - 98 Ave, Edmonton, Alberta, T6B 2X3, and Gordon Court, Fish and Wildlife Division, Alberta Sustainable Resource Department, 2nd floor, 9920-108 St., Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2M4

New technologies are allowing biologists to learn more about birds that was previously impossible. In June 2006, we trapped four adult breeding peregrines and attached satellite transmitters to determine more about their summer foraging areas, migration and wintering grounds. In this note we summarize the autumn migration of the four falcons.

Adult male peregrines were trapped at the Agrium Plant in Fort Saskatchewan, and on the Red Deer River east of Red Deer. Females were trapped at the University of Alberta in Edmonton and in downtown Calgary. GPS accurate, solar powered satellite transmitters were attached with backpack Teflon harnesses to all four falcons. The transmitters send locations every three days. Three of the birds remained near their nests until they migrated. The Red Deer River male moved 20 km in late July and remained at the gas plant south of Joffre until it migrated. Such a move is not far for a peregrine but is unusual, since all the other falcons that we have tracked have remained at their nest cliff until migration.

The Red Deer River male left the Joffre plant between 6-9 September and headed southwest. On the 9th he was at the south end of the Porcupine hills, 25 km north of Pincher Creek. This is the most westerly movement of all four falcons. He then traveled southeast 980 km to Casper, Wyoming on the 12th, 625km further to southeast Colorado by the 15th, and 500 km more to 175 km southwest of Oklahoma City on the 18th. Then this falcon turned south and was near the Falcon Dam on the Rio Grande, Texas by the 21st, and then covered only 100km to cross into Mexico near Reynosa by the 24th. His rate of travel varied considerably as he worked his way down the Gulf Coast of Mexico. On 27th at 6am local time he was

15km offshore from Tampico, a distance of 450 km in three days. But later that same day, by 4pm he was 350 km south enjoying downtown Veracruz City's Malecon!. On the 30 September he was at the base of the Yucatan over the wetlands at Ciudad Carmen, 550 km east of Veracruz. On the 3 October he was at his winter quarters in downtown Belize City, a further 400 km east. He remained there until at least October 31, most locations in the downtown and shoreline of that City. Unfortunately, the transmitter has not sent a signal since. We will have to wait until spring to determine if the falcon returns to the Red Deer River.

The second falcon to leave Alberta was the Fort Saskatchewan male who left town between 22-25 September. On the 25th the male was 1050 km southeast just south of Minot, South Dakota and three days later he was another 1570 km southeast in southern Missouri. His rate of travel slowed as he only traveled 500 km to near Montgomery, Alabama by October 1 during the night but the next evening he was 170 km further, near Pensacola, Florida. Then a big jump, 1300 km in three days to the Gulf coast north of Tampico, Mexico. He continued down the Gulf coast covering 400 km in the next three days and 450 km in the three days after that. By now he had turned south away from the coast and was part way across Chiapas headed for the Pacific coast. On October 22, three days and 90 km later he was at his winter home in the large wetlands on the Pacific coast on the border between the Mexican States of Chiapas and Oaxaca.

The third falcon to leave was the female trapped in downtown Calgary. She was in Calgary on 25 September, but on 28th she was in Montana, 160 km west of Billings in the Yellowstone River valley. She then headed south in a hurry covering 1280 km in three days into New Mexico, about 250 km east of Albuquerque. She then flew east 550 km to 180 km west of Dallas, Texas. Then 1150 km south along the Gulf Coast of Mexico, to Tampico by 7 October. Three days later she was 530 km further south. By October 13 she had crossed the Yucatan and was on the Belize-Guatemala border,

80 km north of Puerto Barrios. Her migration then seemed to stall as she moved only 70 km in three days to Lago de Isabel, just east of Puerto Barrios. But by 19 October she had jumped 480 km south to near Managua, Nicaragua, but then only 70 km in three days to the north shore of Lake Nicaragua. Her migration down the Caribbean coast of Central America seemed to be more consistent as she covered 360 km to near Limon, Costa Rica and 320 km to the Panama Canal by 28 October. That day she covered 150 km between 8am and 5pm arriving in Columbia near Medellin by dark. In the next three days she flew south 300 km in Columbia, then 300 km east to arrive at her winter quarters 120 km southeast of Bogotá by 9 November. This area appears to have irrigated lands in the headwaters of the Meta River.

The last falcon to leave Alberta was the University of Alberta female who was at her nest site on 8th October and 1050 km southeast near North Platte Nebraska on the 11th and 1000 km further southeast in southern Oklahoma on the 14th. Her rate of travel then slowed and she turned south for the Gulf Coast. She was 100 km from Houston, Texas on the 17th and just over the Mexican border over the Laguna Madre wetlands on the 20th. Like the other falcons she followed the Gulf Coast south to near Tampico on the 23rd and Villahermosa on the 26th. She then crossed the

Yucatan to near the Guatemala-Honduras border on the 29th and along the Caribbean coast to the Nicaragua-Honduran border by 1st November, Limon. On the 4th at night she was near Limon, Costa Rica by sunset that day she had flown 240 km to near the Panama Canal. By the 7th she had entered Columbia just east of the Panama border. On the 10th November she was at her wintering location in the Cauca River valley, 150 km north of Medellin, Columbia.

Generally the migrations took a month. The males took a few days less and covered shorter distances (5095 km and 5570 km) while the females took a bit longer to cover more miles (6200 and 7250 km). On average the falcons travel about 200 km per day, with the Red Deer male traveling 212 km per day, and the Calgary female at 173 km per day. Their rate of travel was faster at the start of their migrations across North America, then generally slower for the rest of their routes. All four falcons followed the same general migration path, southeast from Alberta to the Texas coast and along the Gulf coast of Mexico. Three then crossed the Yucatan. The two females continued along the Caribbean coast of Central America to winter in Columbia. Although the two males wintered north of the two females, this is not the pattern with other peregrines where the females remained in Mexico and males went to South America.



Figure 1. Routes taken by four peregrine falcons in autumn 2006 from their nest sites to their winter homes.



The **ORCHID DIARY** for 25 March - 24 April 2007

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

The great migration has begun although a little later than might be expected. Of note is the large number of reports of Sandhill Cranes this spring.

- Mar 25 Carrie Sadowski heard a couple of **Sandhill Cranes** calling in flight south of her house near Smith 7th Line, east of Cty Rd 29. An **Eastern Meadowlark** was also singing in the area.
- Mar 26 A **Long-tailed Duck** was seen in Little Lake by Jerry Ball. A **Winter Wren** was heard in full song by Bill Crins in Petroglyphs PP. He also had **Brown Creeper**, **Pine Siskin**, **Red Crossbill**, and **Pileated Woodpecker**. Thomas and Martha Ormond found a **Blue-spotted Salamander** on the road near Mount Julian. Carrie Sadowski listened to an American Woodcock near her house near Smith 7th Line east of Cty Rd 29.
- Mar 27 Carrie Sadowski whilst again listening to **American Woodcocks** from her house also heard a couple of **Chorus Frogs** and a **Spring Peeper** calling from the wet fields. Jerry Ball had an **American Wigeon** in the run-off pond at Mathers Corners. Ben Walters observed two **Northern Shovellers** with a group of **Mallards**, and a congregation of male **Hooded Mergansers** on the Otonabee River by Hwy 115. Anne Anthony spotted a **Mourning Cloak** butterfly flying in Lange Village. At Mathers Corners she had two **Green-winged Teal** and twelve **Northern Pintails**. Elsewhere were several **Eastern Phoebes**, **Eastern Meadowlarks** and many **Killdeer**. Randy Smith saw the **Merlin** in Little Lake Cemetery, and a **Northern Harrier** at the north end of Chemong Rd.
- Mar 28 Anne Anthony and Jerry Ball listened to **American Woodcock** displaying on Bartlett Rd. south of the airport. Opposite the airport they heard a **Wilson's Snipe** winnowing. Scott McKinlay saw his first **Belted Kingfisher** of the season in Cavan Creek east of Cty Rd 10. He also watched a pair of **Beavers** sumo wrestling in shallow water on the edge of the creek. Toni Sinclair watched a male **Eastern Bluebird** along Six Foot Bay Rd.
- Mar 29 Colin Jones observed lots of ducks on Lake Katchewanooka - 10 **American Wigeons**, Several hundred **Ring-necked Ducks**, 20 **Scaup Sp.** Probably Lesser, 50 **Common Goldeneyes**, 50 **Buffleheads**, 100 **Hooded Mergansers**, and several hundred **Common Mergansers**. A **Turkey Vulture** also flew along the lake. Most of the same species were also seen on Clear Lake from South Beach Rd. Steve Coombes watched a pair of **Northern Harriers** south of Moncrief Line at Hwy 28.
- Apr 02 Jerry Ball had eleven **Double-crested Cormorants** in Little Lake, a large (>100) flock of **Rusty Blackbirds** on Baseline Rd., and three **American Woodcocks** at the south end of Duncans line near Rice Lake
- Apr 03 Two **Greater Yellowlegs** were seen by Jerry Ball, one on Duoro 8th Line south of River Road, and the other on Cedar Valley Line west of Hwy 28.
- Apr 04 In the Fowler's Corners area, in open water of Chemong Lake, John Cavanagh had **Wood Ducks**, **Hooded Mergansers**, **Bufflehead**, **Pied-billed Grebe**, **Common Mergansers**, **Common Goldeneyes**, and **Belted Kingfisher**. Erica Nol had large flocks (~500) of **Tree Swallows** over the river at Trent.
- Apr 05 Toni Sinclair woke to the call of a **Common Loon** on Buckhorn Lake. She also spied a **River Otter** on the ice. A pair of **Merlins** were near her house, an **Eastern Bluebird** was on Six Foot Bay Rd which was chased away by a **Cooper's Hawk**. The same day she had an **Osprey** at Gannon's Narrows and a **Great Blue Heron** in a nearby swamp. Tony Bigg had a **Savannah Sparrow** on Centre Rd between Duoro 3rd and 4th Lines.
- Apr 06 Anne Anthony, Jerry Ball, and Maureen Smith, touring around the county, reported the following sightings: a **Northern Goshawk** flying over Hubble Rd, two **Sandhill Cranes** south of Lakeview Rd near Rice Lake, five flocks of **Fox Sparrows** in various places, four **Wilson's Snipe** in a wet unfrozen area at the NE corner of Nicholson and Otonabee 2nd Line, and a **Chipping Sparrow** on Kent Bay Rd. Maureen Smith had a **Yellow-rumped Warbler** behind her house on the Indian River in Warsaw.
- Apr 07 Rick Stankiewicz reports a pair of **Killdeer** in the Campbelltown Road area south of Cty Rd 2.
- Apr 08 John Carley reports three **Sandhill Cranes** flying low, and calling, over the Buckhorn Community Centre. At Fowler's Corners John Cavanagh saw a **Red-breasted Merganser** and a **Green Heron**.

- Apr 09 Four **Blue-winged Teal** were seen by Anne Anthony in a pond on Birdsall Line just north of River Road. Barbara McDonald watched a **Common Loon** on Little Lake. Ben Walters had two male **Blue-winged Teal**, one male, one female **Green-winged Teals**, two male **Wood Ducks** and one male, one female **Hooded Merganser** in a pond off Beardsmore Drive. Seven **Greater Yellowlegs** were in the flooded area north of the airport.
- Apr 11 Many **Golden-crowned Kinglets** and an **Eastern Phoebe** were noted by the Hamblys on the SSFC campus.
- Apr 13 Barbara McDonald watched two **Sandhill Cranes** flying over Miller's Creek. One landed in the centre of the marsh.
- Apr 14 Colin Jones had a male **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** feeding in a Sugar Maple tree in their yard.
- Apr 17 An unknown person reports a tagged (#980) **Trumpeter Swan** in a pond by the Old Norwood Rd. It was still there on April 24. About ten **Wild Turkeys** were seen by Dave and Sherry Hambly at Tindle Bay Rd and Smith 5th Line.
- Apr 18 John Fisher heard a **Barred Owl** calling in downtown Peterborough, on Aylmer St between Aberdenn and Manning Aves. Other people have since heard and seen this bird.
- Apr 19 Coon Lake Rd, north of Burleigh Falls, provided Colin Jones with calling **Chorus Frogs**, **Spring Peepers**, and **Wood Frogs**. **Midland Painted Turtles** were out basking on logs, and he saw an **Eastern Comma** butterfly. Several Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were back on territory drumming, and one Sandhill Crane flew over.
- Apr 20 Five **Tundra Swans** were seen at Fowlers Corners on Chemong Lake, by John Cavanagh. Anne Anthony and Tony Bigg heard six **Barred Owls** whilst doing an owl survey route between Lasswade and Coe Hill (Lasswade Rd and The South Rd). They also heard an **American Bittern**, **American Woodcocks**, and **Wilson's Snipe**.
- Apr 21 Dave and Sherry Hambly heard an **American Bittern** from the rail-trail west of Aackison Rd
- Apr 22 A Jerry Ball saw a single **Lesser Yellowlegs** amongst a dozen **Greater Yellowlegs** along Johnston Dr south of Peterborough. Colin Jones, Simon Dodsworth, and Cathy Darevic had a good day by Rice Lake. A large flock of **Greater Scaup**, **Ring-necked Ducks** and **American Wigeon** were of Serpent Mounds PP. One **Sandhill Crane** flew over the park. Herkimer Point provided a displaying **Wilson's Snipe**, a **Hermit Thrush**, and two singing **Pine Warblers**. **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** and **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were at both places and a **Barn Swallow** flew over Hiawatha Line. They saw a few **Garter Snakes** and heard and saw numerous **Leopard Frogs**.
- Apr 22 B In the Petroglyphs PP Don Sutherland and Lori found a **Red-shouldered Hawk**, lots of **Northern Flickers**, **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers**, **Red-breasted Nuthatches**, **Brown Creepers**, **Winter Wrens**, **Golden-crowned Kinglets**, and **Dark-eyed Juncos**, two **Eastern Phoebes** nest building, three **Ruby-crowned Kinglets**, four **Hermit Thrushes**, two **Yellow-rumped Warblers**, four **Pine Warblers** two **Purple Finches**, two **Pine Siskins**, one **Red Crossbill**. He had good choruses of **Chorus Frogs** and a few **Spring Peepers**, several **Painted Turtles**, and two moths - **The Infant** and **Gray Spring Moth**. Jerry Ball and Tony Bigg ventured up to Sandy Lake Rd looking for butterflies and found only two species - **Mourning Cloak** and **Eastern Comma**. A number of **The Infant** moth were also flying there. A number of **Garter Snakes** were seen and one DOR **Smooth Greensnake** was found. As well as numbers of **Painted Turtles** they also saw a **Blanding's Turtle** crossing Cty Rd 504 a couple of kms east of Apsley. Drew Monkman saw a **Bald Eagle** on the island in Lake Katchewanooka where they nested last year but, according to Susan Brooks who lives across from the island, she does not think they have been successful this year. A **Sandhill Crane** was seen by the PFN group in Millers Creek CA.
- Apr 23 Driving around the county Jerry Ball found the following birds: **Virginia Rail**, **American Bittern**, and **Blue-winged Teal** at Millers Creek, **Yellow-rumped Warbler** at Youngs Point, A **Red-necked Grebe**, five **Horned Grebes**, and a **Common Loon** on Little Lake, and an **American Wigeon** and the **Trumpeter Swan** on the Old Norwood Rd. Michael Butler and Martha Allen came upon eight **Spotted Salamanders** and about twenty **Blue-spotted Salamanders** emigrating from a breeding pool beside Mt. Julian-Viamede Rd. Just after a heavy downpour, Don Sutherland heard a **Baltimore Oriole** calling in the Avenues area of downtown Peterborough. Erica Nol had more swallows at trent, this time a mixture of **Tree Swallows** and **Barn Swallows**. She also had two **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** just north of the university. In her yard on Gilmour St she has regular **Golden-crowned Kinglets**, a **Hermit Thrush**, and an active pair of **Merlins** making noisy aerial displays.
- Apr 24 Tony Bigg again saw the **Sandhill Crane** at Miller's Creek landing in the same area as seen by others earlier. They must be breeding there this year. He also had **White-throated Sparrows** feeding in his yard in Lakefield.



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 (2007) – 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 _____