



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 53, Number 6, September 2007
 Reg. Charity: BN#119091908RR0001
www.peterboroughnature.org

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 Sept 12th 7:30 pm</p> <p>Ptbo Public Library</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting: " Peary caribou on Ellesmere Island"</p> <p>The last 100 years have been tough on Peary caribou such that it is currently listed as 'endangered' by COSEWIC*. Over most of its range, Peary caribou suffered major declines in the 70's and 90's due to winter icing events. On Ellesmere Island, Robert Peary hunted caribou extensively to supply his expeditions towards the North Pole. Stephen Petersen (Ph.D Candidate, Trent University) will speak to us about his research using genetic data to examine the current population structure of Peary caribou on Ellesmere Island in light of these events.</p> <p><i>*Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada</i></p>	 <p>Woodcut print of a Peary Caribou by Stephen Petersen.</p>
<p>Sunday October 7th 8:00 am</p> <p>Zoo Parking Lot</p>	<p>Sunday Morning BIRD WALKS Resume</p> <p>Looking ahead to the cooler fall weather, it's time once again for the Sunday morning bird walks to commence. Our first walk will be Sunday, October 7th. 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 a.m. and we will carpool from there. Bring some change to contribute for gas and don't forget your binoculars. Bird walks will be held every Sunday in October (starting the 7th and ending the 28th).</p>	

NOTE: If anyone is interested in hosting a bird walk on their property, please contact Laura Arnot Kucey (lkucey@yahoo.com) to make arrangements.

Other Local Events of Interest

September, October, November 2007	2007 Celebration of Trails Celebration of Trails is the only festival of its kind in Canada and this marks its 2 nd annual autumn festival of trail events, offering more than 35 events for all ages and interests. Walk, run, hike, bike, ride and discover the great trails in the City of Kawartha Lakes, and the Counties of Haliburton, Hastings, Lennox and Addington, Northumberland, Peterborough, and Prince Edward. Events run throughout September and October and into November. Visit www.celebrationoftrails.ca for more information.
Sunday September 2 nd	Land Pioneer Village Pioneer Corn Roast Lang Pioneer Village hosts a Pioneer Corn Roast from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Village (104 Lang Rd., Keene). Tempt your taste buds with fresh corn on the cob smothered in butter. Listen to live music. Hop on board for a horse-drawn wagon ride through the historic village as pioneers demonstrate their trades and daily activities. Admission is \$9, \$8 for students and seniors, \$5 for children ages 5-14, free for children under five; \$25 per family (2 adults and up to 4 youth). For more information call (705) 295-6694.
Sunday September 30 th	Land Pioneer Village Applefest Lang Pioneer Village hosts Applefest from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Village (104 Lang Rd., Keene). Join in Lang's yearly tribute to the apple. Enjoy freshly baked apple treats and mulled apple cider, cider pressing and threshing demonstrations as well as free horse drawn wagon rides and live entertainment. Admission is \$9, \$8 for students and seniors, \$5 for children ages 5-14, free for children under five; \$25 per family (2 adults and up to 4 youth). For more information call (705) 295-6694.

The PFN Annual Family Potluck Picnic is being planned for next May!

Cheryl and Wayne Covert have graciously offered to host the PFN Picnic at their farm (Circle 'C' Farms) in Cavan **next May** (instead of the traditional fall picnic). We are planning a day full of exploring the 100 acres of farmland and forest. We will plan for a morning bird walk, for those keen to see the sites and migrating birds before the picnic, a potluck picnic at 11:30, and then a walk through property to see the amazing habitat found in the woods, along the stream and around the barn. We look forward to having your family join us next May for this exciting event.

As a bit of a teaser, Cheryl and Wayne have put together a description of the farm:

"We have a very long laneway that ensures a quiet environment. Our fence lines are wooded and act as connecting flyways attracting Brown Thrashers, Orioles, Woodpeckers and Warblers. A small stream, that crosses the property, flows year round. The stream and springs feed four ponds. For environmental reasons, and our interest in edible wilds, we have let the area around the stream and the ponds grow naturally. These areas attract a wide variety of bird species from Ducks, Geese, Herons and a Bittern to King Fishers. The barns are a natural attraction for swallows and flycatchers and our bird feeders attract Rose breasted Grosbeaks, Gold Finches and Nut Hatches, to name a few."

JUNIOR FIELD NATURALISTS

Sunday
September
30th

2:00 pm

BIRD MIGRATION AT MARK BURNHAM PROVINCIAL PARK

Hope everyone had a good summer! Now it's time to get your wings flapping to play the great bird migration game (a board game come to life!).

We are going to meet at Mark Burnham Provincial Park for a program based around bird migration and take a hike to see what's happening in the woods in September. The park is located on Hwy. 7 just east of Television Rd. See you then! --Neil

Focus on the Moraine Photography Contest

- from Ontario Nature Network News - August 16, 2007

Focus on the Moraine and win \$1000 dollars. Be sure to take your camera along with you on your next outing on the Oak Ridges Moraine; it could be worth \$1000! The Moraine in Focus photo contest is in full gear. We will continue to accept submissions until October 15, 2007.

Paramount to the theme of the contest - all entries must be taken on the Oak Ridges Moraine and fall into one of the four following categories:

- land and water,
- plants and animals,
- people and communities
- youth photographer.

If you're shooting digitally, remember to put your camera on the highest image quality setting. This contest is all about showcasing the splendour of the Moraine; the larger the images can be blown up when they're showcased at events in November, the better.

For more information, visit <http://www.monitoringthemoraine.ca/moraineinfocus/>, email contest@monitoringthemoraine.ca or call Kate Potter at 905-579-0411, extension 106.

This contest is presented by Monitoring the Moraine Project and the Caring for the Moraine project and is made possible by the generous funding from the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation and the George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation.

Message from our new President

As many of you will be aware, I succeeded Heather Smith as President of the Field Naturalists early in June. I am a relatively recent member of the Club and so there are many members whom I have not had the chance to meet. This short article is by way of an introduction.

My wife, Jocelyn, and I moved to Peterborough in April 2005 after better than a decade of living and working in Australia. Prior to that I studied and worked in Vancouver to which town I moved in 1968. I intended to stay two years and take a masters degree at UBC. Twenty-four years later I moved to Australia to continue my career in distance education and open learning!

I grew up in rural south-west England. Both my parents loved the outdoors and I spent innumerable Sunday afternoons walking through the countryside with my parents and two sisters. My academic studies and research in the UK and at UBC were in Geography, which gave me a good broad understanding of the natural world. Ask me sometime about the distinction between kames and kame terraces! When living in Vancouver I spent many days camping, hiking, mountain walking and bird watching, all things I did later in Australia.

I have a very broad interest in the natural world with a passion for birds. One of the great advantages of birding as an interest is that you can do it anywhere. The first time I visited Australia I added three birds to my life list before I left the airport parking lot in Melbourne and I saw my first Grey Catbird through the fence in the garden of the White House in Washington DC!

I have been a member of Field Naturalist Clubs for over thirty years: first In Vancouver and

then in Geelong in Australia. I served on the Committee of the Geelong club for five years: two of them as President. There are many similarities between the two towns and the two clubs so I hope my Geelong experiences will allow me continue the quality of leadership displayed by those who have preceded me as President.

It is important that I know what you as members think about what the Club does, or doesn't, do. Towards that end I hope to include short pieces in upcoming Orchids to get your views on a number of issues. I look forward to working with you over the next few years.

- John Bottomley, President, Peterborough Field Naturalists

Answers to the Bird & Plant Photo Quiz in the June Issue of the Orchid:

- A & B - Wilson's Snipe
- C - Baltimore Oriole
- D - Upland Sandpiper
- E - Sora
- F & G - Prairie Smoke
- I - White Spruce
- J - White Trillium
- K - Indian Paintbrush



One of North America's Rarest Dragonflies Discovered in Canada

- Colin Jones, Natural Heritage Project Zoologist, NHIC

The only dragonfly protected by the U.S. Endangered Species Act, and one of North America's rarest, is the Hine's Emerald (*Somatochlora hineana*). Prior to this year, the Hine's Emerald was only known from small sites in the United States, specifically Wisconsin, Michigan, Missouri and Illinois. It was also once found in Ohio and Indiana but seems to have disappeared from those states. This summer, a population of Hine's Emeralds was discovered in the Minesing Wetlands in Simcoe County, Ontario, west of the City of Barrie.

The Hine's Emerald is a relatively large dragonfly with brilliant green eyes, and prominent yellow spots on the sides of the thorax (the middle portion of the body bearing the wings and legs). They occur only in spring-fed wetlands overlaying dolomite bedrock. Such sites occur on the Bruce Peninsula and Manitoulin Island and have been the focus of several unsuccessful attempts in the past to find Hine's Emerald in Ontario.

On June 20, 2007, Chris Evans of Midhurst, Ontario was looking for dragonflies along the roadside adjacent to the Minesing Wetlands when he caught a dragonfly he initially assumed was the Clamp-tipped Emerald (*Somatochlora tenebrosa*), a species known to occur in Ontario and one that is very similar to the Hine's Emerald. Photos were taken and were sent to Colin Jones of the Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC), Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. It was then realized that the individual was actually a Hine's Emerald.

On June 27, Colin Jones, along with Mike Oldham and Wasyl Bakowsky, who are also biologists at the NHIC, and Mike's son Robert visited the Minesing Wetlands and located several more Hine's Emeralds. Since then, Colin Jones, Chris Evans and Bob Bowles have been working together to gather as much information as possible on the habitat of this rare dragonfly in the Minesing Wetlands. This information will be compiled into a scientific note and will be submitted for consideration to one of several possible entomological journals.



Hine's Emerald, male. Photograph by Colin D. Jones.

The Minesing Wetlands is a vast wetland of international significance spanning an area of over 6,000 hectares (15,000 acres). Minesing contains a complex of different wetland types including fens, marshes, swamps and bogs, each supporting a number of sensitive flora and fauna, some of which are rare or endangered. The Hine's Emerald is yet another rare species of the Minesing Wetlands and an indication of the extreme value of these wetlands to the conservation of Ontario's biodiversity!

Help Birds Avoid Window Collisions

- from Bird Studies Canada Latest News, 24 August 2007

13 August 2007 – Some fall migrants are already on the move, and will be passing through urban and rural areas in increasing numbers in the weeks to come. There are many ways to make windows at your home or business more visible to birds, which will help to reduce bird fatalities from hitting windows. Collisions with windows kill up to a billion birds each year in North America. Visit the Fatal Light Awareness Program website (<http://www.flap.org/new/prevent/htm>) to read about their top 10 recommendations for making glass less of a hazard for birds.

Piping Plovers Return to Sauble Beach

- from Ontario Nature Network News - August 16, 2007 (submitted by Ken Frook, Friends of Sauble Beach)

Friends of Sauble Beach have been actively promoting dune stewardship since 2000. The municipality, Town of South Bruce Peninsula, has also played an important role as they have supported the conservation strategies and the day to day commitment to excellence in dune management promoted by Friends of Sauble Beach. A pair of Piping Plovers were identified by a summer resident of Sauble, 13 year-old Brendan Toews in mid May. Sauble Beach had not seen Piping Plovers for over 35 years and it is the first time since 1977 that the species has successfully nested on Ontario's side of the Great Lakes. In 1985 they were declared an endangered species in Ontario. By the end of June four chicks hatched and three have survived. At present the young are very healthy and are practising short flights. An enthusiastic team of volunteers have been providing surveillance under the dedicated leadership of Stewart Nutt, the On-site coordinator. A real success story!

ORCHID SUBMISSIONS WANTED!

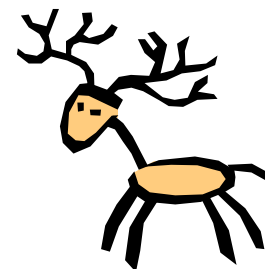
I would like to encourage members to send in stories, pictures, poetry, artwork, articles, reviews or PFN outing write-ups. Please remember that if the submission is not your own work, I need to receive original author and publication information in order to give proper credit for the piece. This is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

**Deadline for submissions for the October issue:
Sunday, September 23rd, 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



Weathering the Change: Adapting to Climate Change in the Mississippi Valley

- from Ontario Nature Network News - August 16, 2007 (submitted by Cliff Bennett, Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists)

Mississippi Valley Conservation and the Mississippi Valley Fields Naturalists are pleased to present two days of workshops this fall on "Weathering the Change: Adapting to Climate Change in the Mississippi Valley."

The workshops will be held in beautiful Almonte, Ontario on Saturday, September 15th and Saturday, September 22nd, 2007. The exciting list of distinguished speakers will provide an overview of climate change studies within their area of expertise at a regional, provincial or national scale as well as discuss how climate change may affect the Mississippi Valley in a number of important sectors. Afternoon breakout sessions will provide participants an opportunity to discuss climate change issues within their area of interest.

For further information please visit the Mississippi Valley Conservation website at <http://www.mvc.on.ca> or contact the project coordinator, Jackie Oblak, at the following number: (613) 259-2421 or joblak@mvc.on.ca.

New Interactive Web-based Key for Plant Identification

If you're interested in identifying plants, try using the new interactive website at <http://utc.usu.edu/keys/>. By entering various characteristics of a plant in a web-based identification application, a list of North American plants is refined, until the species is identified. The website boasts interactive dichotomous keys, a glossary (with definitions of botanical terms and images), and a series of fact sheets.

Home Interactive Keys Dichotomous Keys Fact Sheets Glossary References Carex Collaboration

Tools for Plant Identification

Interactive Keys

New tools to aid in quick and accurate identification of botanical specimens.

Poaceae - Grass Family Cyperaceae - Sedge Family Melanthiaceae Orchidaceae - Orchid Family

Fact Sheets Carex oligosperma habit and dissection

Screen capture of the intro web page at <http://utc.usu.edu/keys/>

PHOTO CORNER - Photographs by PFN Members



Common Map Turtles on Stony Lake. Photograph by Michael Butler.



Common Map Turtles on Stony Lake. Photograph by Michael Butler.



Caspian Terns on Stony Lake, August 2007. Photograph by Michael Butler.

A Little Bit of History...

In 1957, Peterborough hosted the first annual general meeting of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists that was held outside of Toronto. The meeting was held at the Empress Hotel in downtown Peterborough, with additional sessions held at Queen Mary's School. These series of photos show an outing from that 1957 meeting at Burnham Park. Thanks to Doug Sadler for this interesting bit of history!
(All photos by Doug Sadler)



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President	John Bottomley – 572 Charlotte Street, Ptbo, K9J 2W6	johnbottomley@sympatico.ca	742-1524
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	TBD		
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

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 _____