

The Orchid



March 2022

Volume 68, No. 2

peterboroughnature.org

Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists

Published nine times yearly. Publication Mail Agreement #4005104

Know • Appreciate • Conserve Nature in All Its Forms



A Rough-legged Hawk on Bensfort Road in January. Photo: Steve Paul

Inside: Highlights of Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count
Book Review: Finding the Mother Tree
Nature in March – Waiting for Spring-to-Be
PFN Yearly Reports for Annual General Meeting
Steve's Swan Sightings

In this Issue:

PFN Coming Events	3
Volunteer Corner	5
Membership Renewals Are Due.....	5
PFN Silent Auction	6
Volunteer Your Maple Tree For Tapping.....	6
Monitor Chorus Frogs This Spring	6
Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count Results	7
Nature in March - Waiting for Spring-to-be.....	8
Book Review - Finding the Mother Tree	9
PFN Member Ian Attridge Honoured by City ..	10
Poem: Gone With the Wind	11
Steve's Swan Sightings.....	11
The Orchid Diary	13
Annual Report for 2021.....	16
Minutes of the 80 th Annual General Meeting	21
Financial Statements 2021.....	23
Treasurer's Report	24
PFN Membership Application.....	26

Clockwise from right. A Northern Hawk Owl on January 25 just north of Lindsay (Ken Morrison), an Eastern Coyote on January 31 near Scollard Drive (Dave Milsom), and an American Mink at Pengelly Landing on December 25 (Steve Paul)

Welcome new PFN members!

- Daniel Cadieux & Mariam Al-Naser
- Pamela & Daniel Poliquin
- Foxley Oldwood
- Antoinett VanVeen
- Suzanne, Raymond, Bev & Ian Yip-Choy
- Richard & Patricia Staples
- Amina Mohamed
- Elizabeth White
- Catherine Higgins
- Jenny Clark
- Una Jermilova
- Martha Lawrence
- Erica Jaarsma
- Mathew Palarchio



PFN Coming Events

Wildlife Tracking Outings

PFN member, Don McLeod, will once again lead members on one or more outings during the months of November to March focusing on tracks and other wildlife sign. These outings will be scheduled when weather conditions permit. The place and time will be announced by e-mail shortly before each outing. Anyone interested in attending should send an e-mail to Don McLeod at donaldrmcleod.com@gmail.com so he can add you to an e-mail distribution list. If you signed up for previous outings, you would automatically receive an e-mail to confirm.



Accessibility: Moderate to somewhat challenging. These outings will all involve walking in snowy conditions.

<p>Saturday, Mar. 5</p> <p>Inclement weather day – March 12</p> <p>10 a.m. to noon</p> <p>(Moved from Jan.15)</p> <p>14 participants</p>	<p>Name That Tree!</p> <p>Join Trent University environmental students Joel, Sam, Dawson and Jennifer on a walk at the Fleming College trails!</p> <p>Bundle up and enjoy the stark winter beauty of the forest, while learning to identify trees without leaves. From buds, bark, shape, and other clues we will explore all the many distinctions present in the sleeping forest to help in your tree ID pursuits.</p> <p>Bring binoculars and dress for the weather to join us in this informal and leisurely hike among the trees! Participants must be fully vaccinated. To register contact Cathy Douglas at cddouglas77@gmail.com</p> <p>Accessibility: moderate</p>
<p>Sunday, Mar. 6</p> <p>1 to 4 p.m.</p>	<p>Returning Waterfowl on the Otonabee</p> <p>With the increasing sunlight hours in March the spring migration is underway. This afternoon trip will visit various locations along the Otonabee River between Peterborough and Lakefield to discover the returning waterfowl and other early spring migrants. At this time of the year, the number and variety of waterfowl on the river changes daily. Details on meeting location will be provided prior to the outing. Martin Parker will be leading this traditional early spring PFN outing. Pre-register with Martin at mparker19@cogeco.ca or 705-745-4750.</p> <p>Accessibility: easy</p>
<p>Thursday, Mar. 10</p> <p>7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Zoom Meeting</p> <p>Invitations e-mailed to members</p>	<p>PFN Annual General Meeting</p> <p>The meeting will consist of an update on PFN business, the election of the next PFN board and a presentation by two guest speakers.</p> <p><u>Relationality and Reciprocity within Traditional Ecological Knowledge</u></p> <p>Join Maggie Cummings and Kelly King from the TRACKS Youth Program for a presentation on how Indigenous understandings of reciprocity informs regenerative ways of being in relationship to place and creation. They'll discuss</p>

PFN Coming Events	
	<p>how TRACKS embodies these understandings and works with youth to encourage their connections with their responsibilities to the land.</p> <p>Maggie Cummings is an Anishnaabekwe, Otter clan, from Wshkiigomaang (Curve Lake First Nation). She completed her B.A. in Linguistics, with a minor in First Nations and Indigenous Studies, at the University of British Columbia. Maggie is passionate about Anishinaabemowin (the Ojibwe language), language revitalization movements, and uplifting youth voices. Youth are our future and Maggie is excited to help empower them on their journey in the physical world.</p> <p>Kelly King is a settler living in Nogojiwanong/Peterborough. She has maternal ancestral roots in Poland and Latvia, and paternal ancestral roots in Scotland and England. Kelly graduated from Trent University with a B.A. in Indigenous Studies (2014) and from York University with a Master's degree in Environmental Studies (2017). Her research focused on Indigenous histories of place, as well as settler identities and responsibilities, through community arts practices. Kelly is passionate about creating spaces to engage youth with traditional ecological knowledge and ways of connecting to the land and to each other.</p>
<p>Saturday, Mar. 26</p> <p>9 a.m. to late afternoon</p>	<p>Gathering of Waterfowl at Presqu'île</p> <p>For decades, the PFN has conducted a late March or early April outing to Presqu'île Provincial Park to view the concentrations of waterfowl which gather on the waters of Presqu'île Bay. This year is the 100th anniversary of the founding of Presqu'île Provincial Park. On previous trips, thousands of waterfowl have been observed consisting of fifteen or more species of geese, swans and ducks. There are expected to be other migrants as well. Pre-registration is required for this outing. Register with the outing leader, Martin Parker at mparker19@cogeco.ca or 705-745-4750. Details will be provided to all who register. Accessibility: easy</p>
<p>Thursday, Apr. 14</p> <p>Zoom Meeting</p> <p>Invitations e-mailed to members</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting: Tall Grass Awakening</p> <p>Val Deziel will be presenting on the ecological restoration in the Rice Lake Plains. Val Deziel is the Coordinator of Conservation Biology for the Rice Lake Plains/ Lake Iroquois Plain. Val is responsible for conservation planning and land stewardship in the Rice Lake Plains-Lake Iroquois Plain where she works closely with Tallgrass Ontario (Val sits on the TGO Board) and the Mottled Duskywing recovery team. Val completed her Hon.B.Sc. in Restoration Ecology at Trent University/ Fleming College. Val has experience as the Coordinator of Conservation Biology on various wildlife research projects working with provincial governments, universities and First Nations. She joined NCC in 2012 and is now responsible for coordinating and conducting stewardship work in the Rice Lake Plains, including invasive species control, species at risk surveys, prescribed burns, and tallgrass prairie/oak savannah habitat restoration.</p>

PFN Coming Events

<p>Thursday, May 12 7:30 p.m. Zoom Meeting Invitations e-mailed to members</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting: The Niagara Escarpment, A Natural Masterpiece 450 Million Years in the Making</p> <p>Beth Gilhespy will be presenting a talk on the natural history and geology of the Niagara Escarpment</p> <p>Beth Gilhespy has been Executive Director of the Toronto Zoo Wildlife Conservancy since 2019, an organization that secures funds for Toronto Zoo endangered species conservation programs. From 2017 to 2019 Beth served on the Niagara Escarpment Commission. Between 2004 and 2018 she was Chief Executive Officer of the Bruce Trail Conservancy, where she supervised a staff of 18 and oversaw the activities of more than 1,500 volunteers in land preservation and trail management. Prior to her work at the Bruce Trail Conservancy, Beth worked for 15 years in toxic chemical research and management. She holds Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in physical geography and geology from the University of Guelph.</p>
--	--

Note: Recordings of past PFN Zoom meetings can be viewed on PFN's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAgbbqgr4ujZ16qba23LTQQ> under the playlist menu.

Other Events of Interest

Pathway to Stewardship and Kinship Workshops

March 2 - Tell a Tale: Sharing Nature Through Stories With Young Children

March 23 - Creative Outdoor Playspaces with Adam Bienenstock

To learn more and preregister, visit [Pathwayproject.ca/workshops](https://pathwayproject.ca/workshops)

Note: The Pathway to Stewardship & Kinship needs more volunteers as there is so much interest in the schools in learning more about the natural environment. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Cathy Dueck at cathy@pathwayproject.ca



Volunteer Corner

Call for Outing Volunteers

Sue Paradisis, our outings coordinator, is always looking for more volunteers so please contact her if you are interested. Training is provided and an experienced leader will help until you feel ready to go on your own. She can be reached by phone at 705-559-2061 or email at sueparadisis@hotmail.com



MEMBERSHIP REWALS ARE DUE

2021 memberships expired Dec. 31 so this will be the last Orchid for members that have not renewed for 2022. If you paid after Sept. 1, 2021, your membership is valid to the end of 2022.

If you are unsure of your membership status, contact Jim Young jbyoung559@gmail.com



PFN Silent Auction

Missing the fun of our AGM silent auction table? We have the answer for that!

Join us for our FIRST VIRTUAL fundraiser AUCTION.

Items will be available to bid on starting MARCH 3. You can preview the items from February 27!

The auction will close following conclusion of the AGM.

Get ready to BID and support the PFN! Starting February 27, visit our auction table at:
<https://www.32auctions.com/PFN-AGM2022>



Do you have a maple tree? Volunteer it for tapping by newcomers to Peterborough

Submitted by Jay Fitzsimmons

Maple syrup is a great part of Canadian nature and culture. For immigrants, learning how to make your own maple syrup is exciting but daunting.

The Peterborough Field Naturalists has partnered with the New Canadians Centre to introduce immigrants to the experience of making maple syrup. Thanks to a Community Projects grant from PFN, we've purchased 15 sets of maple-tapping equipment to loan out to families with the New Canadians Centre. This will be our first year, and we're excited. But we need maple trees.

Many immigrants don't have a yard with a big maple tree. Many also don't have a car. So we are hoping to hook them up with generous neighbours who have a maple tree they are willing to volunteer for tapping. If you live in Peterborough, and you have a sugar maple that's at least 25 cm diameter at breast height, please consider volunteering it to be tapped. We're especially interested in maples downtown or near apartment buildings. You don't need to do any work.

Email jayfitzsimmons@gmail.com with your tree's address. If any NCC families who want to tap live nearby, I'll contact you to arrange things. We'll follow tapping guidelines to keep your tree healthy. Thanks for helping, eh!



Call for Volunteers to Monitor Threatened Chorus Frogs This Spring!

Frogs will soon be calling, and we are calling on YOU!

The threatened western chorus frog (WCF) has recently experienced population declines. In response, a long-term monitoring program has been created by Blazing Star Environmental, Environment and Climate Change Canada and Trent University. This program will help us understand the changing WCF distribution. Data collected will allow the conservation community to detect and respond to WCF range declines over time.

Since the WCF range is large and the calling period is short, this program will rely on individuals to conduct short call surveys, beginning as early as March 2022. For more details about the program, please contact info@blazingstar.ca.



Chorus Frog photo by
Scott Gillingwater

Highlights of 2021 Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count

By Colin Jones, Count Compiler

The 36th Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count was held on Thursday, December 30, 2021 - a day with very pleasant weather. It was calm throughout most of the day (excellent listening conditions). Temperatures were very mild hovering around zero for most of the day, with mostly overcast skies. There was open water on some lakes and so a few species of waterbirds were detected, which is not normally the case. There was also excellent diversity of winter finches.



Common Redpoll. Photo: Steve Paul

Summary:

- Participants: 37 (above average)
- Total species: 41 (a new count high – previous high was 40 in 2015, a year with plenty of open water and 8 species of waterbirds recorded)
- Total individuals: 3,944 (a new count high – previous high was 3,932)

Notable Species and High Counts:

- *Hooded Merganser*: 1 (5th time recorded on the count)
- *Common Merganser*: 7 (6th time recorded on the count)
- *Rock Pigeon*: 156 (new count high – previous high was 120 in 2020)
- *Common Loon*: 4 (new count high – previous high was 2 in 2015 – and only 4th time recorded on the count)
- *Red-tailed Hawk*: 9 (near count high of 10)
- *Downy Woodpecker*: 52 (near count high of 54)
- *White-breasted Nuthatch*: 194 (near count high of 233)
- *Winter Wren*: 5 (new count high – previous high was 2 in 2015 – and only 6th time recorded on the count)
- *Hermit Thrush*: 1 (new for the count)

Low Counts:

- *Mourning Dove*: 2 (a near miss; this species has been recorded every year since 1995 with a 10-year average of 7.3 and count high of 93)
- *Blue Jay*: 95 (10-year average is 282 and count high is 653)

Winter Finches:

- *Evening Grosbeak*: 69
- *Pine Grosbeak*: 12
- *Purple Finch*: 19
- *Common Redpoll*: 537 (new count high – previous high was 420 in 2003)
- *Hoary Redpoll*: 1 (a single bird was among a large flock of Common Redpoll)
- *Red Crossbill*: 84
- *White-winged Crossbill*: 133
- *Pine Siskin*: 135
- *American Goldfinch*: 727 (new count high – previous high was 714 in 2000)

Misses:

- *Black-backed Woodpecker*: once a nearly annual species on this count, it has only been recorded 3 times over the past 10 years.
- *Canada Jay*: another once annual species but only recorded 4 times over the past 10 years.

The count circle (including the 6 areas) can be viewed at the following link:

<https://maps.google.ca/maps/ms?msid=217208700112631695001.0004d125bfd0d20adc5de&msa=0&ll=44.660839,-77.950058&spn=0.2525,0.676346>

Nature in March – Waiting for Spring-to-be**From the Book *Nature's Year in the Kawarthas* by Drew Monkman**

March is a time of waiting – waiting for spring-to-be. Our patience, however, is starting to wear thin. Whenever we think that winter is finally ready to give up her reign, we are hit by yet another blast of cold and snow. March is essentially a tug-of-war between winter and spring. And anything and everything goes - wind, snow, frigid cold, freezing rain, thundershowers, near-summer warmth - for this seems a month without rules.

March doesn't always flaunt the signs of spring. Many signs are subtle and reveal themselves only to those who actively search them out. But despite what the day-to-day weather may be doing, many indications of the impending change of season simply can't be missed. The sun is now higher, brighter and warmer; we have daylight from six a.m. until early evening; Leo, the constellation of spring, looms high in the east; the daytime sky is full of noisy flocks of crows, and local wetlands are brightened by Pussy Willow buds as they reveal their insulating tufts of white hairs. The first true spring migrants are only a mild spell away; a period of warm weather will bring in a flood of ducks and at least half a dozen species of songbirds.



Photo of Golden-crowned Kinglet by Reem Ali



Photo of River Otter by Reem Ali

In March, our sense of smell is reawakened by the spicy fragrance of sun-warmed Balsam Poplar resin, by the delicious aroma of boiling maple sap and by the pervasive odour of the thawing earth. Our ears are reacquainted with bird song as Red-winged Blackbirds, American Robins and a dozen other migrants once again advertise ownership of nesting territories. Our taste buds are treated to maple taffy, hardened over snow. All our senses tell us that the warmth and intense activity of "high spring" are coming. But let's not rush the season. Each stage of spring's arrival needs to be savoured, because it will be over all too soon.

Editor's Note: For more, you can visit Drew's webpage (www.drewmonkman.com), refer to his book "Nature's Year" or read Drew's column which is published on Fridays in the Peterborough Examiner.

Orchid submissions are encouraged!

The submission deadline for the next issue is Friday, March 25.

Send submissions to Kathryn Sheridan via email: orchid@peterboroughnature.org

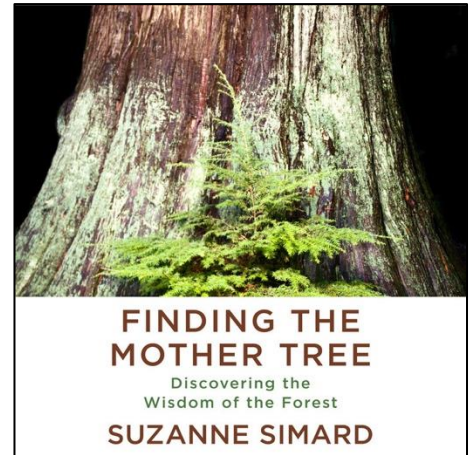
or post mail to: PFN, PO Box 1532, Peterborough ON K9J 7H7

Book Review - Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest by Suzanne Simard

Reviewed by Marilyn Freeman

Finding the Mother Tree is a combination of memoir, science, discovery and wonder.

Author Suzanne Simard grew up in the British Columbia forests, a child of a long line of loggers. She became a forester herself, one of the few women working in the industry. Replanted clear cuts that failed to thrive bothered her. Her logging ancestors practiced a form of regenerative logging leaving the forest vibrant and intact. She hoped she could help solve the problems of the industry by working from the inside. Not so easy.



One of the experiments Simard ran for the BC government involved the concept of “getting rid of the competition” in regards to industrial forestry. This concept gave no thought to the homes and food supplies for birds, squirrels, deer, prevention of erosion or nutrient addition to soil. The guilt of being involved in this experiment nagged at her. It was difficult to keep her goal of becoming a scientist who could unravel what was ailing the planted seedlings. “All but one of the glyphosate treatments [kill the competition] would end up failing to improve conifer growth and, no surprise, native plant diversity was lowered. In the case of birch, killing it improved the growth of some of the firs but caused even more to die – the opposite of expectations.”

Eventually Simard landed a permanent job as a silviculture researcher with the BC Forest Service and was free to conduct research into whether conifer seedlings needed to connect with the mycorrhizal fungi in the soil to survive. “If fir somehow needed birch, birch wouldn’t be hurting fir, as foresters assumed.”

Further research went into mixed pine/alder groves. In bare pine seedling sectors, raindrops didn’t get absorbed into the soil. In fact, runoff took soil particles, humus and clay away with no leaves or roots to stop it. The pine seedlings mixed with alders experienced no drought stress during a hot, dry August. The killing of all the alders – government policy – was looking a lot like overkill.

Simard hit “paydirt” in the relationship between alder and pine when she learned that both species shared mycorrhizal fungi that delivered nitrogen directly. The fungi was more important than the soil in terms of nitrogen delivery. The question arose “Why would the alder bother to send it in the first place?” Were the pines giving something in return?

One thing becomes clear throughout the book: often the views of the policy makers, the forestry companies and those actually doing fieldwork don’t align.

Simard’s work became much more widely known when she was published in the magazine *Nature* in 1997. *Nature* called it the “wood-wide web”, an expression with which we’re all now familiar.

Along with the science, it’s the arc of Simard’s life - the death of her brother, the birth of her children, breast cancer and misogyny – that weaves the book together creating a compelling read.

A prodigious amount of misogyny was directed at Simard and her research. Her work challenged entrenched dogma. She was labeled a troublemaker and was basically forced out of the field. Fortunately, that led to a professorship at the University of British Columbia which enabled her to continue her research into how the biggest, oldest tree in an area (i.e., the Mother Tree) is connected to almost all the younger ones. It is the central hub of the saplings and seedlings “with threads of different fungal species, of different colours and weights, linking them, layer upon layer, in a strong complex web.” They all communicate via

glutamate – glutamate also being the most abundant neurotransmitter in the human brain! Further, Mother Trees send more carbon to their own kin but don't ignore other species in the community.

One of the appreciated connections Simard makes is between Indigenous knowledge and western science. She writes, "Diversity matters, and everything in the universe is connected, between the forests and prairies, the land and the water, the sky and the soil, the spirits and the living, the people and all other creatures." "Turning to the intelligence of nature itself is key."

Citizen science opportunity: <http://mothertreeproject.org>

PFN Member Ian Attridge Honoured by City of Peterborough

Citation Issued by the Council of the City of Peterborough

"Ian Attridge is the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award winner. As a 24-year resident of the City he has contributed countless voluntary hours to initiatives large and small which have made contributions to the betterment of the City. Ian's contributions include work to protect local natural areas, promoting urban health, fostering the incorporation of local non-profits, and advancing the City's and citizens' relationship with Indigenous peoples and their history.

Ian's volunteerism since 1996 has been to work to have the protection and management of natural areas in Peterborough enshrined in policy. He volunteered with a group to develop a Natural Areas Strategy that was adopted by Peterborough County Council. He became a member of the City of Peterborough's Natural Areas Advisory Committee when it was created in 2001, advising the City on how to address development applications that impact natural areas. He was also involved with the creation of Sustainable Peterborough from 2002-2009. More recently he has been a member of the City's Natural Heritage Task Force, providing guidance on natural heritage planning in the new Official Plan. In 2016 he co-founded Reimagine Peterborough which was inspired by impactful initiatives like ReThink London.

Ian has also volunteered his time to incorporate several local non-profits including the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough and The Mount. He is also a member of the Treaty Learning Circle, which meets regularly at the Camp Kawartha Centre to understand our treaties and histories, as well as our responsibilities and relationships within the Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg territory. Ian was a keynote speaker about this work at the Fall 2019 Trent Temagami Colloquium.

It is clear that he is deeply involved in many aspects of the Peterborough community and we are pleased that Ian Attridge is the winner of the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award."

PFN Certificate of Appreciation:

Ian Attridge is a long-time member of the PFN and was the former Executive Director of the Kawartha Land Trust. He was the recipient of a PFN Certificate of Appreciation at the 2018 Annual General Meeting of the PFN for his leadership in protecting Natural Areas in the Peterborough-Kawartha Region and founding the Kawartha Land Trust.



Photo: Clifford Skarstedt

Gone With the Wind: A Sort of Love Story

Viewing you as a vigilant white pine tree of great seniority ... an elder to me ...
 Two hundred years ago, as your seed began to grow, what sights did you see?
 Oh, the events you've seen through the years you've been watching men come and go ...
 If only you could converse on life, be it boon or curse, how interesting to know!
 When passenger pigeons flew by, did their flocks darken the sky as is often stated?
 For money and thrill of killing, the gunners' carnage was chilling, the birds decimated.
 Horror of horrors, fungus came with wood borers; green needles turned brown.
 Woodpecker predation by bark removal and excavation couldn't save your lovely crown.
 Years after your death your majesty still halted our breath ... filled us with wonder.
 Drumming your resonant wood, the pileated woodpecker could be the Bird of Thunder.
 But last night's winds howled, you hissed and growled as you crashed to the forest floor.
 Now the morning sky is bright against which height your grandeur stands no more.
 To many of us a friend, you were dependable to the end, and one to remember ...
 One fewer voice in the chorus of the changing forest, gone with the wicked wind of December.

Murray Arthur Palmer, 2021

Steve's Swan Sightings

Submitted by Steve Paul

As most of the lakes around Peterborough have frozen up this cold winter, there have still been several sightings in our area – they include the Trent-Severn Waterway between Lock 25 and Lakefield, the Lakefield waterfront, and near Young's Point.

Our local celebrity, Sadie (X66), her untagged, unbanded (UTUB) mate, and their UTUB tag-along friend continue to stick around. They were included in the highest swan count that Laurie and I have seen this winter, with nine swans seen together at Young's Point on January 29. They even came to say “Hi” to Kate Kylie, who was regularly reporting the whereabouts of this trio to me in 2021.



Trumpeter Swans and Mallards. Photo: Kate Kylie

Let's hope Sadie and her partner decide to make this area their home, and start a family in 2022!

~~~~~  
 We have lost a great man in Trumpeter Swan conservation with the passing of Harry Lumsden. Following is an excerpt from the press release written by Laurel Ironside:

It is with great sadness that we share that Harry G. Lumsden, our Visionary and Mentor of the Ontario Trumpeter Swan Restoration Program passed away peacefully at home on Feb 8, 2022, one month shy of his 99th birthday. Over the years, we have had the honour to stand beside this modest man who only ever wanted to draw the attention to the swans rather than himself. Harry shared with us his dream, his knowledge, and his passion of Trumpeter Swans. It is because of his vision we must give credit for the beauty of the Trumpeter Swans we see today in Ontario. Harry Lumsden was a man of great accomplishments and a life well lived, full of legacies, respected worldwide for his work in rehabilitating the Trumpeter Swan population in Ontario, a self-taught biologist/ornithologist and “a life-long student of



birds.” Harry had often shared a story of childhood when he first became interested in birds, “I have always been interested in birds right from being a small child. I remember fairly vividly when I was about 4 years



Photo of Harry G. Lumsden by Susan AJ Davis

old, being taken by my father to look at a Song Thrush nest. The bird was flying around making alarm calls.” From then on, Harry’s curiosity became enamored by the mysterious behaviour of the birds.

He provides a strong example of how, by working together, we can make a lasting contribution to conservation. A retired biologist and research scientist with Ontario’s Ministry of Natural Resources, Harry Lumsden is an international authority on the grouse family and waterfowl. As well, he has shared his knowledge of aviculture with the general public. He has inspired volunteers to follow his lead in breeding Canada geese and Trumpeter Swans, successfully reintroducing these birds to Ontario. Known for his passion and dedication, he continues to stimulate public interest in wildlife conservation.

Harry’s modest lifetime passion for birds did not go unnoticed. On October 30, 2003, Harry received The Order of Canada Award, and in 2004 he became a Member of the Order of Canada, one of the highest honours for his outstanding contribution to wildlife management and conservation. The Lieutenant Governor’s Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement was awarded to Harry Lumsden on February 24, 2012, for his work with the Trumpeter Swans. “This prestigious award honors individuals who have made contributions to preserving, protecting and promoting community heritage for 25 years or more.” Many prestigious awards are hanging on Harry’s walls. He would humbly smile and comment during an interview, “Please don’t say anything about that stuff, I don’t want to give the impression that I am more than I actually am. I just love swans.”



Trumpeter Swans near Buckhorn bridge on January 4. Photo: Ken McKeen



## The Orchid Diary








A summary of noteworthy observations by PFN members and others in Peterborough County. Information compiled from e-bird, Drew Monkman's Sightings website, PTBO Sightings and individual submissions. Please submit your interesting observations to Martin Parker at mparker19@cogeco.ca or phone 705-745-4750. FOY: First-of-year, LH Trail: Lang-Hastings Trail, NFC: Night Flight Call station which records call notes of birds passing over.

| Special Winter Visitors                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Carolina Wren</b> -- Throughout the period, a Carolina Wren has been observed by many observers in the area of Nicholls Oval and Rotary Park. It has been regularly visiting two feeders.<br><b>Fox Sparrow</b> -- An individual has been visiting daily the Barrett feeder in the Fraserville area throughout the period and has been seen by many observers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Dec. 20                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Cathy Douglas found a <b>Cackling Goose</b> in the flock of <b>Canada Geese</b> at Beavermead Park - still present on Dec. 27.                                                                                                                                                         |
| Dec. 21                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Dave Milsom observed 3 female <b>Redhead</b> , 4 <b>Greater Scaup</b> , 1 <b>Red-breasted Merganser</b> & 1 <b>Pied-billed Grebe</b> off Pengelly Landing.<br>Travis Cameron had a <b>Common Loon</b> in the Lakefield Marsh area - present on Dec. 23.                                |
| <b>Eastern Bluebird</b> - Many reports from period<br>Dec. 21 - 5 in Allendale yard by Pam Martin & 4 along Scriven Line by Dave Milsom.<br>Dec. 27 - 4 along Keene Road by Steve Paul.<br>Dec. 28 - 4 on the LH Trail by Pam Martin.<br>Dec. 31 - 3 in the Briar Hill area by Tony Barrett.<br>Jan. 1 - 4 along Centre Line of Douro by Jerry Ball, 1 on wires along Cty Road 28 near Bailieboro by Scott Gibson, 4 along Nicholson Road by OFO outing, 4 along Hilliard Trail by Iain Rayner.<br>Reports of Eastern Bluebirds continued throughout the period from various locations. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Dec. 23                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Scott Gibson had a <b>Red-winged Blackbird</b> visit his feeder in the city. It remained for a while.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dec. 24                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | A <b>Snowy Owl</b> was present in the Corrigan Hill area of the city by several observers -- was observed regularly in this section of the city throughout the period.                                                                                                                 |
| Dec. 25                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Luke Berg located a <b>Northern Pintail</b> at Beavermead Park.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Dec. 26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Bob & Maxine Prentice videoed 28 <b>Trumpeter Swans</b> on Cordova Lake.<br>Jeff Stewart reported a <b>Northern Saw-whet Owl</b> at his NFC station, Millbrook - additional reports until end of January.<br>A <b>Common Grackle</b> appeared at the Barrett Feeder, Fraserville area. |
| Dec. 27                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | A <b>Red-winged Blackbird</b> arrived at the feeder of Dave Milsom on the Scollard Drive area - still visiting at end of January.                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Yellow-bellied Sapsucker</b><br>There have been numerous reports during the period including:<br>Dec. 28 - Colin Jones located one in Raymond/Cochrane Park area -- seen periodically until late Jan.<br>Jan. 3 - Present along Creamery Road by Dave Milsom & Cathy Douglas and next day by others.<br>Jan. 10 - One at feeder on Scriven Road by Cathy Douglas.<br>Jan. 28 - Laurie Healey had one along the Keene Road.<br>Jan. 29 - Lynne Cotton had one in the Ennismore area.                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Dec. 30                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | The Annual Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count - see separate report in this issue                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Jan. 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | With the start of the new year, lots of birders were active in the field.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Jerry Ball's highlights include 5 <b>Trumpeter Swans</b> on the Otonabee River, 6 <b>Cedar Waxwings</b> in the Buckley Lake area, 3 <b>American Kestrels</b> and 1 <b>Belted Kingfisher</b> at Campbelltown Landing.</p> <p>On Katchewanooka Lake off Stenner Rd., Iain Rayner had 1 <b>Mute Swan</b>, 1 <b>Greater Scaup</b>, 2 <b>Lesser Scaup</b> &amp; 1 <b>Common Loon</b>.</p> <p>On Little Lake off Beavermead Park, multiple observers observed 2 <b>Lesser Scaup</b>, 1 <b>White-winged Scoter</b> &amp; 1 <b>Long-tailed Duck</b>.</p> <p>Laurie Healy, Steve Paul &amp; Cathy Douglas had a <b>Red-shouldered Hawk</b> along Wallace Point Road - reported from same location on Jan. 12 by Marilyn Hubley.</p> <p>A <b>Short-eared Owl</b> was observed at the Peterborough Airport by multiple observers</p> <p>Mike Burrell had a <b>Winter Wren</b> in his yard on 8<sup>th</sup> Line of Douro.</p> <p>Luke Berg had a <b>Hermit Thrush</b> along West Kosh Lake cottage road.</p> <p><b>White-winged Crossbill</b> reports: Scott Gibson had 1 in the Cowan Forest Tract of the Kawartha Land Trust &amp; Drew Monkman had 6 along Sandy Lake Road - continued in Sandy Lake area during the month.</p> |
| <b>American Robin</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| American Robins were present in the City and region throughout January with small flocks being reported by many. Drew Monkman noted one of his most frequently observed species in January.                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Jan. 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p><b>White-winged Scoter</b> still present on Little Lake by multiple observers - until Jan. 10.</p> <p>Luke Berg had a <b>Golden Eagle</b> in the Nephton area.</p> <p><b>White-winged Crossbill</b> from Clifford Road &amp; Sandy Lake Road by multiple observers.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Jan 4                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>Luke Berg &amp; Matthew Tobey had 68 <b>Red-winged Blackbirds</b> &amp; 1 <b>Brown-headed Cowbird</b> in the area of Duncan Line and County Road 2 - seen by others during month.</p> <p>Dan Chronowic had a <b>Winter Wren</b> in Jackson Park.</p> <p>A <b>Savannah Sparrow</b> was located along Nicholson Rd. by Cathy Douglas, Luke Berg &amp; Matthew Tobey.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Jan. 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Joanne Driscoll photographed a <b>Barred Owl</b> in her rear yard in the new section of the city.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Jan. 7                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Drew Monkman reported a <b>Northern Mockingbird</b> in the area of Algonquin Blvd at Royal Drive -- observed by many other observers during month.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Jan. 8                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Tim Haan had <b>White-winged Crossbill</b> at Kawartha Highlands Signature Site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Jan. 9                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Iain Rayner had a <b>Ring-necked Duck</b> on Little Lake.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Jan. 10                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>William Snowden reported a <b>Cooper's Hawk</b> visited his feeders (looking for lunch). He also noted that activities at feeders had diminished.</p> <p>Lynn Smith had a <b>Brown-headed Cowbird</b> at feeders on Assumption Road.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Jan. 11                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Michael Gillespie had a <b>Northern Shrike</b> visiting his yard on David Fife Line.</p> <p>A female <b>Wood Duck</b> was present on the Lakefield waterfront by many observers - present on Jan. 12 off Millennium Park &amp; Jan. 22 &amp; 24 near Lock 19.</p> <p>Jerry Ball had a <b>Merlin</b> in Little Lake Cemetery.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Jan, 12                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Donald Sutherland reported a <b>Long-tailed Duck</b> on the Lakefield Waterfront                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Jan. 13                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Many observers reported a <b>Snowy Owl</b> at Peterborough Airport - present to end of month.</p> <p>Travis Cameron had a <b>Fox Sparrow</b> at his feeders in Lakefield - present to end of month.</p> <p>Donald Sutherland had a <b>Swamp Sparrow</b> along Bartlett Road - still present on Jan. 21.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Jan. 15                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Short-eared Owl</b> at the Peterborough Airport by many observers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>Hermit Thrush</b> - numerous reports from various locations in last half of January.</p> <p>Jan 15 - Hannah Road by Ken Fulsang, Selwyn Conservation Area by Carling Dewar, South Bay, Stoney Lake by Cathy Douglas and Anda Rungis.</p> <p>Jan. 17 - In Jackson Park by Matthew Gavin.</p> <p>Jan. 19 - Cathy Douglas &amp; Anda Rungis had one at Millbrook.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |



|         |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jan. 21 | - One in Harper Park by Rene Gareau and others.                                                                                                                     |
| Jan. 23 | - In Miller Creek Conservation Area by Matthew, Natalie & Weston Garvin.                                                                                            |
| Jan. 29 | - Luke Berg had one along the LH Trail - Villiers to Blezard, and Kayla Martin had one in the Trent Nature area.                                                    |
| Jan. 16 | <b>Northern Saw-whet</b> Owl in the Trent Nature area by Cam Rodgers.                                                                                               |
| Jan. 18 | Scott Gibson had a <b>Short-eared Owl</b> along Cty Rd. 2, Bailieboro<br>Dave Milsom had another <b>Short-eared Owl</b> at the Peterborough Airport                 |
| Jan. 20 | Dave Milsom had a <b>Northern Saw-whet Owl</b> at the Camp Kawartha Environment Centre                                                                              |
| Jan. 23 | <b>Golden Eagle</b> reports: Nephton Ridge by Luke Berg & Petroglyphs Park by David Britton                                                                         |
| Jan. 24 | Martyn Obbard had a <b>Common Grackle</b> in Lakehurst, still present till end of month<br>Scott Gibson had a <b>Red-winged Blackbird</b> at his feeder in the city |
| Jan. 26 | Jerry Ball watched a <b>Sharp-shinned Hawk</b> take an <b>American Tree Sparrow</b> at a feeder along David Fife Line                                               |
| Jan. 29 | Michael Gillespie photographed an <b>Eastern Screech-owl</b> in his barn on David Fife Line                                                                         |

| PFN Board of Directors                                                                                                      |                |                                  |                                                                                                                | Other Volunteers                       |                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President                                                                                                                   | Rene Gareau    | rene.gareau@sympatico.ca         | 705-741-4560                                                                                                   | Membership Secretary                   | Jim Young 760-9397                                                                         |
| Vice-President and Outings Coordinator                                                                                      | Sue Paradisis  | sueparadisis@hotmail.com         | 705-559-2061                                                                                                   | Orchid Editor                          | Kathryn Sheridan<br>orchid@peterboroughnature.org                                          |
| Treasurer                                                                                                                   | Ted Vale       | treasurer@peterboroughnature.org | 705-741-3641                                                                                                   | Orchid Mailing                         | Mary Thomas                                                                                |
| Secretary                                                                                                                   | Martin Parker  | mparker19@cogeco.ca              | 705-745-4750                                                                                                   | Jr. Naturalists                        | Lara Griffin, Stephanie Collins, Erica Barclay and Jay Fitzsimmons<br>pfnjuniors@gmail.com |
| Digital Comms Co-coordinator                                                                                                | Marilyn Hubley | media@peterboroughnature.org     | 705-760-9378                                                                                                   | Ecology Park Feeders                   | JB Jaboor, Kathryn Sheridan                                                                |
| Meeting Coordinator                                                                                                         | Steve Paul     | stevepaul70@gmail.com            | 705-930-8370                                                                                                   | Orchid Diary, Citizen Science Projects | Martin Parker                                                                              |
| Assistant Meeting Coordinator                                                                                               | Phil Shaw      | pshaw78@hotmail.com              | 705-874-1688                                                                                                   | PFN Advocacy Committee                 | Jim Cashmore, Martin Parker, Ted Vale, Sue Paradisis, Anda Rungis                          |
| AGM and Zoom Coordinator                                                                                                    | Reem Ali       | reemest@hotmail.com              | 705-868-0060                                                                                                   | Harper Park Stewardship Committee      | Lynn Smith, Rene Gareau, Marilyn Hubley, Ted Vale, Sue Paradisis, Anda Rungis              |
| Assistant Membership Secretary                                                                                              | Cathy Douglas  | cddouglas77@gmail.com            | 905-751-5292                                                                                                   | Webmaster                              | Chris Gooderham<br>webmaster@peterboroughnature.org                                        |
| Ontario Nature Representative                                                                                               | Fiona McKay    | fcmckay@peterboroughnature.org   |                                                                                                                | Peterborough CBC                       | Martin Parker                                                                              |
| Liaison with Juniors                                                                                                        | Anda Rungis    | rungisa@gmail.com                | 613-298-9062                                                                                                   | Petroglyphs CBC                        | Colin Jones                                                                                |
| Board Intern                                                                                                                | Josh Russell   | joshrussellbleackley@trentu.ca   | 705-957-9789                                                                                                   | Peterborough Butterfly Count           | Jerry Ball                                                                                 |
| Peterborough Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 1532, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7H7                                               |                |                                  |                                                                                                                |                                        |                                                                                            |
| PFN on Social Media:                                                                                                        |                |                                  |                                                                                                                |                                        |                                                                                            |
|  Facebook Peterborough Field Naturalists |                |                                  |  YouTube peterboroughnature |                                        |                                                                                            |
|  Instagram @PtboNature                   |                |                                  |  TikTok peterboroughnature  |                                        |                                                                                            |
|  Twitter @PtboNature                     |                |                                  |                                                                                                                |                                        |                                                                                            |



---

**PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS**

---

## Annual Report for 2021

### MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

#### **Memberships – Jim Young**

At the end of 2021, there were 264 memberships (up from 176) representing 458 individuals (up from 275). Online membership application and fee/donation payment appears to be contributing to membership increase.

#### **Members Meetings – Steve Paul**

Since moving to Zoom-only presentation format in May 2020, we have continued to provide great content for our members all the way through 2021! We learned about tracking migration patterns and threats to songbirds on their journey to Central and South America. We looked at effective methods in using herbicides in land restoration efforts to remove invasive plants while protecting native plants. We discovered the passion of dedicated volunteers in helping restore the population of Trumpeter Swans and Monarch butterflies in Ontario. We looked at gardening with native plants, and the insects they attract. We were presented with fascinating research on the shifting distributions of Canada lynx and bobcat in Ontario. We heard about conservation projects to help protect turtles and snakes in Central Ontario, and were even taken on a journey to learn about reptiles and amphibians in Arizona. I want to provide a very special thank you to Reem Ali for all her hard work and dedication behind the scenes, to make sure each and every presentation went off without a hitch. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

#### **Outings – Sue Paradisis**

For the second year in a row, PFN was severely limited by COVID-19 in its ability to offer outings to members. Although many were planned, less than half took place. Throughout spring and summer, we were restricted by provincial mandates. Nonetheless, what we were able to offer at the beginning and end of the year was enthusiastically embraced by members. After months of lockdowns, people were happy to spend some time outdoors with like-minded individuals. In addition to birding, we learned more about fungi, lichens, mosses and liverworts. A big thank you goes out to the volunteers who shared their time and knowledge.

#### **The Orchid – Kathryn Sheridan**

It was another COVID-19 year for the PFN's newsletter, The Orchid, meaning fewer outings and nature events to advertise and report on. However, a sense of normalcy in the newsletter was maintained by regular features (e.g., book reviews, nature almanacs, Orchid Diary, From the Archives, poems...) and many excellent photos of flora and fauna that members sent in. Orchid contributors are listed further on in this document. Many thanks to all of them for sharing their observations and talents, and for helping to keep the club connected via our newsletter!

#### **Junior Field Naturalists – Jay Fitzsimmons, Stephanie Collins, Lara Griffin**

Due to the pandemic, we did not conduct any activities in 2021. Hopefully conditions will allow activities in 2022.

**Digital Communication – Marilyn Hubley**

The PFN Facebook page has 2793 followers, broken down as follows: Peterborough, ON, 24.1%, Toronto, ON, 4.9%, Lakefield, ON, 2%, Ottawa, ON, 1.9%, Lindsay, ON, 1.2%, Douro, ON, 1%, Millbrook, ON, 1%, Bucharest, Romania 0.8%, Hamilton, ON, 0.8%, Keene, ON, 0.8%

Instagram followers have gone from 580 in Jan 2021 to 892 (up 312) and Twitter has gone from 2,319 to 2,385 (up 66). Our new TikTok page has 17 followers. The PFN YouTube channel has 102 subscribers.

Recordings of past PFN Zoom meetings can be viewed on PFN's YouTube channel under the playlist menu.

PFN Social Media Sites: Instagram: @PtboNature Twitter: @PtboNature YouTube: peterboroughnature  
TikTok: peterboroughnature

**ADMINISTRATION****Ontario Nature Representative – Fiona McKay**

As part of its commitment to nature, in both advocating for and spreading the word, Ontario Nature (ON) maintains a province-wide network of individuals and over 155 conservation groups: the "Nature Network". The PFN is one of 29 groups that make up the Lake Ontario North Region. The Region hosts two meetings a year - one in the spring and one in the fall - to share knowledge, challenges, accomplishments and best practices with other groups in the region.

2021 had many of the same challenges as 2020, with the continuing COVID-19 pandemic affecting most of the clubs' normal operations. The move from in-person to virtual meetings was adopted by most clubs, while outdoor activities were reduced to limited handfuls of individuals or canceled outright. Somewhat counter-intuitively, most clubs experienced an increase in membership. Video-meetings were generally well attended, perhaps in response to people getting out more, as indoor options were minimal. While the increased use of club properties and trails was welcomed, it also resulted in an increase in vandalism and dumping. Consequently, several clubs commented on having to erect signs to educate users about trail etiquette.

The PFN supported several advocacy submissions of Ontario Nature including: ongoing support opposing Minister's Zoning Orders (MZO) that override legal and policy protections for farmland and natural heritage features and areas across Ontario; signatory to ON's letter to the province strongly opposing its delay in protections for Black Ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) under the Endangered Species Act, 2007 (ESA), and; signatory to ON's submission to the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO # 019-3136), "Grow the Greenbelt" to promote a more ambitious approach to protect precious farmland, groundwater and natural areas across the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH), building the region's resilience to climate change.

**Club Sales – Cathy Douglas**

Sales of PFN publications continued. Books are available for purchase by contacting either Martin Parker or Cathy Douglas. In addition, the PFN also supplies its book *Nature in the Kawarthas* to two local businesses: the Avant-Garden Shop and the GreenUP Store. Courtesy of an article that appeared in the Peterborough Examiner in December, both of these stores sold out of books at Christmas, and additional stock had to be purchased by the PFN.

80th anniversary pins are still available for purchase through Cathy Douglas.

**Archives – Martin Parker**

Regular maintenance of the PFN Archives continued during the year. Donald Sutherland undertook the task of digitizing the issues from the 1950s and 1960s.



**PFN Legacy Fund – Martin Parker**

The annual grant to the PFN from the PFN Legacy Fund (an endowed fund managed by the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough) was \$2,230. These funds were used for the following special initiatives of the PFN: PFN Awards and Support of the Peterborough Regional Science Fair; registration fees for the participants of the Petroglyphs & Fenelon Falls Butterfly Counts; costs for organizing the Peterborough Christmas Bird Count; PFN Research Grant to Anna Dlugosz at Trent University; PFN Community Project Grant to Brian Wales for Bird Houses at the Lakefield Lagoon, Turtle Conservation Centre for special UV Lights, and Jay Fitzsimmons for a project to introduce new Canadians to maple syrup production; and a special grant to Otonabee Conservation for rehabilitation of Jackson Creek Trail.

**CITIZEN-SCIENCE – NATURE STUDY**

The principal citizen-science or nature studies projects conducted by PFN were the annual Peterborough Christmas Bird Count, Petroglyphs Bird Count, and Petroglyphs Butterfly Count, continuing documentation of flora and fauna of Harper Park, and The Orchid Diary. This year the PFN co-sponsored the Fenelon Falls Butterfly Count in cooperation with the Kawartha Field Naturalists. 2021 was the initial year of the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas-3 and many PFN members participated.

Two students who were enrolled in the Conservation Biology course at Trent University completed their placements with the PFN as part of their course requirements. Karina Bissonnette is preparing a summary of the reptiles and amphibians of the County and Shelby Cohen is updating information on mammals of Peterborough.

**COMMUNITY INITIATIVES****The Harper Park Stewardship – Lynn Smith**

A Watershed Planning Study was initiated by the City of Peterborough to explore the impacts of activities and a growing population across the watershed. It will provide insight to help the City develop best practices for land use and management of water resources.

In addition, the Harper Creek Subwatershed Study was started. The Harper Creek Subwatershed (SWS) contains one of the largest natural features in Peterborough: Harper Park and the Harper Creek Provincially Significant Wetland. According to Ian Boland, Senior Watershed Project Manager, a detailed inventory of the water resource system will be undertaken which includes the natural heritage features, functions and cultural values. In 2021, Phase 1, Watershed Characterization was completed and a Public Open House was planned for January 18.

Ultimately, the Harper Creek Subwatershed Study will recommend a land use plan and a detailed management and stormwater strategy that satisfies the policy direction of the Provincial Policy Statement, the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, and the City of Peterborough Official Plan. This study has provided an opportunity for two PFN members (Sue Paradisis and Lynn Smith) to participate in a Working Group and to contribute concerns and comments especially as it pertains to Harper Park. Throughout the process, open houses will be organized to inform the public and to encourage input.

**Ecology Park Bird Feeders – JB Jaboor and Kathryn Sheridan**

The three bird feeders at Ecology Park were filled weekly by PFN volunteers with black oilseed for the months of January to March, November and December.

**Advocacy Committee – Anda Rungis, Sue Paradisis, Ted Vale and Martin Parker**

The PFN participated in numerous community engagement opportunities associated with land use policy and development proposals within the City of Peterborough and the County of Peterborough, including the Transportation Master Plan, Canadian Canoe Museum and the Trent Lands Plan. In this way we heard

directly from the proponents about how natural features and areas would be considered in the proposals and we exercised our opportunity to proactively provide comments. PFN presented to Council and submitted written recommendations for the mitigation of environmental impacts and protection of greenspace in the City of Peterborough's new Official Plan which was adopted on November 21, 2021. Written input was also sent regarding the Trent University Integrated Senior's Village and development proposals in the Harper Creek watershed. The PFN supported advocacy efforts by Ontario Nature seeking a rigorous environmental assessment process for the Bradford by-pass highway.

### PROMOTION

Unfortunately, the normal shows and displays attended by PFN were not held in 2021 due to COVID-19. The PFN was mentioned regularly in the 'Northcrest' and periodically in the 'Changing Seasons' columns in the *Peterborough Examiner* along with other articles in the newspaper. The August 27th 'Changing Seasons' article was on the PFN. Surplus copies of *The Orchid* were provided to local businesses for distribution to their customers.

### PFN AWARDS

At the Annual Meeting, Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following individuals: Lynn Smith for years as a dedicated volunteer, Marie Duchesneau for arranging members meetings for several years and other volunteer efforts, Donald Sutherland for years being a leader in documenting the flora and fauna of the province, and Jim Cashmore for his efforts ensuring natural areas were protected and walking trails were provided in the Lily Lake area.

### 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President** – Rene Gareau

**Vice-President** – Sue Paradisis

**Secretary** – Martin Parker

**Treasurer** – Ted Vale

**Directors** – Philip Shaw, Reem Ali, Sue Paradisis, Fiona McKay, Anda Rungis, Steve Paul, Cathy Douglas, Lynn Smith, Marilyn Hubley and Maela Kaminski (board intern)

### VOLUNTEERS

#### Members Meetings

Coordinators – Steve Paul and Philip Shaw

Speakers – Bridget Stutchbury, Verena Sesin, Donna Lewis, Shelby Colby, Karina Bissonnette, Basil Conlin, Jeff Bowman, Katie Andrews, Jeff Hathaway, and Joe Crowley

Zoom Coordination – Reem Ali, Anda Rungis, and Cathy Douglas

#### Outings

Coordinator – Sue Paradisis

Leaders – Sue Paradisis, Scott McKinlay, Lynn Smith, Martin Parker, Cathy Douglas, Steve Paul, Chris Risley, Bruce Kidd, Leila Grace, Rachel Baehr and Don McLeod

#### The Orchid

Editor – Kathryn Sheridan

Contributors: Steve Paul, Sue Paradisis, Jim Young, Don McLeod, Ken Morrison, Rene Gareau, Lynn Smith, Martin Parker, Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan, Maxwell Matchim, Dave Milsom, Lucie Blouin, Gillian

Trowbridge, Cathy Douglas, Ontario Nature, Marilyn Hubley, Terry Moodie, Drew Monkman, Don Munro, Enid Mallory, Stephan Ragaz, Ted Vale, Ken McKeen, Colin Jones, James Kamstra, Murray Palmer, Marilyn Freeman, Sue Carstairs, Scott McKinlay, Jim Cashmore, Don Davis, North American Native Plant Society, Laurie Healey, Susan Bartsch, Kathryn Sheridan, Reem Ali, Shelby Cohen, Marla Williams, Donna Lewis, Heidi St. Tomas, Peter Andreas, Collen Lynch, Fiona McKay, Chris Risley, Julie Davis, Joanne Sutherland, Marie Duchesneau, Evan Thomas, Jerry Ball, Bradley Howell, Noah Cole, Peterborough County Stewardship Council, Maggie Eaton, Tyler Hoar, Susan Chow, Ian Attridge, Phil Shaw, Carson Hvenegaard, Kawartha Field Naturalists, and Anda Rungis

Orchid Mailing – Mary Thomas, James Young

### **Junior Field Naturalists**

Coordinators – Jay Fitzsimmons, Lara Griffin and Stephanie Collins

### **Digital Communications**

Webmaster -- Marilyn Hubley and Chris Gooderham

Blog and Facebook Postings – Marilyn Hubley

### **Nature Studies**

Orchid Diary – Martin Parker and many contributors.

Peterborough Christmas Bird Count – Martin Parker, compiler, and 91 participants.

Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count – Colin Jones, compiler, and 37 participants.

Petroglyphs Butterfly Count – Jerry Ball, compiler, and 25 observers

Fenelon Falls Butterfly Count -- Martin Parker, compiler, and 14 observers

Bird Feeders at Ecology Park – JB Jaboor and Kathryn Sheridan

Harper Park Inventory and Monitoring – many members

### **Community Advocacy**

City of Peterborough Official Plan Committee – Martin Parker

Kawarthas, Naturally Connected – Fiona McKay

Harper Creek Sub-watershed Study - Sue Paradisis and Lynn Smith

### **Promotion**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the shows and displays normally attended by the PFN were cancelled.

### **Partnerships**

Ontario Nature Spring and Fall Regional Meetings -- Fiona McKay

Kawartha Land Trust – field outing destinations and donation towards the easement for the Kidd farm

Kawartha Naturally Connected -- participating organization

Bird Friendly Peterborough Initiative -- Reem Ali. A collaborative initiative of several local organizations and City of Peterborough

Camp Kawartha – donation

Ecology Park, Peterborough Green-up – location of PFN bird feeders

Peterborough Regional Science Fair – awards and support

Trent University – newsletter reproduction, student projects and grants

FMZ17 Fisheries Advisory Council – Lynn Smith and Phil Shaw

Peterborough Stewardship Council – Phil Shaw

Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough – management of PFN Legacy and PFN Investment Funds

**Donors** - Many members gave a donation to the Club through the year which was used by the PFN for special initiatives on behalf of the members.





PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS

## Minutes of the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Meeting Conducted on Zoom

1. Call to Order

President Rene Gareau called the meeting to order and declared the number of members attending via Zoom exceeds the quorum required by the Peterborough Field Naturalists Operating By-law for a Member's Business Meeting.

President Rene Gareau noted the following documents were printed in the March issue of 'The Orchid', attached to the e-mail notice regarding this meeting, and available on the PFN website: Minutes of Jan. 21, 2020 Annual Meeting, 2020 Annual Report, 2020 Financial Statements, and Report of the Nominations Committee.

Reem Ali reviewed the procedure to be followed by members to indicate their vote on motions.

2. Land Acknowledgment

Paul Elliott gave an acknowledgment of the area's aboriginal legacy.

3. Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting

Moved by Marilyn Freeman, seconded by J. B. Jaboor:

**That the Annual Meeting of the Peterborough Field Naturalists approves the Minutes of the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting held on January 31, 2020.** Carried

4. President's Report 2020

President Gareau gave his Presidential address and summarized the highlights of the past year.

5. Annual Report 2020

Moved by Paul Elliott, seconded by Cathy Douglas:

**That the Annual Meeting of the Peterborough Field Naturalists approves the Annual Report for 2020.** Carried

6. Treasurer's Report for 2020

Moved by Dave Heuft, seconded by Marie Duchesneau:

**That the Annual Meeting of the Peterborough Field Naturalists approves the Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020.** Carried

7. Nominations Committee Report

Moved by Cathy Douglas, seconded by Marilyn Freeman:

**That the Annual Meeting of the Peterborough Field Naturalists approves the Report of the Nominations Committee.** Carried

Edward Vale, Chair of the Nominations Committee presented the report.

8. Certificates of Appreciation

President Gareau presented Certificates of Appreciation to the following individuals:

- Lynn Smith - for years as a dedicated volunteer, Board member and President.
- Marie Duchesneau - for arranging members meetings for several years and other volunteer efforts.
- Don Sutherland - for years of being a leader in documenting the flora and fauna of the province.
- Jim Cashmore - for his efforts in ensuring nature areas were protected and that walking trails were provided in the Lily Lake area.

9. Announcements

Steve Paul reviewed the topics for the upcoming member's meetings.

Sue Paradisis reviewed the upcoming outings.

Edward Vale announced that nominations are being sought for the scholarship which Ontario Nature is offering to the Camp Kawartha Nature Camp.

Reem Ali announced there will be a special members' meeting on March 11 where the two placement students from the Conservation Biology course at Trent University will be giving a summary of their projects.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Cathy Douglas:

**That the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Peterborough Field Naturalists is now adjourned.**

Carried

---

Rene Gareau, President

---

Martin Parker, Secretary



**PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS**

## Financial Statements 2021

### Statement of Income and Expenditures

Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2021

#### Income

|                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Membership Fees            | \$ 1,905.00         |
| Donations                  | \$ 4,510.00         |
| AGM Revenue                | \$ -                |
| Sales                      | \$ 858.00           |
| Bank and Investment Income | \$ 1,276.00         |
| Legacy Fund Grant          | \$ 2,250.00         |
| HST Rebate                 | \$ -                |
| <b>Total Income</b>        | <b>\$ 10,799.00</b> |

#### Expenditures

|                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Membership Programs               | \$ 85.00            |
| AGM Expenditures                  | \$ -                |
| Orchid Printing and Mailing       | \$ 2,901.00         |
| Club and Community Projects       | \$ 2,841.00         |
| Legacy Fund Projects              | \$ 2,250.00         |
| Communication/Publicity/Promotion | \$ 1,105.00         |
| Administration                    | \$ 2,710.00         |
| HST Expenses                      | \$ 246.00           |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>         | <b>\$ 12,138.00</b> |

|                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Result of Operations</b> | <b>\$ (1,339.00)</b> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|

### Statement of Financial Position

Dec. 31, 2021

#### Assets

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Bank Balance        | \$ 8,441.00         |
| Inventory           | \$ -                |
| Cash on Hand        | \$ 220.00           |
| Prepaid Expenses    | \$ 390.00           |
| Investments         | \$ 15,761.00        |
| <b>Total Assets</b> | <b>\$ 24,812.00</b> |

#### Liabilities and Equity

##### Liabilities

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Accounts Payable         | \$ 2,074.00        |
| Prepaid Memberships      | \$ 3,570.00        |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b> | <b>\$ 5,644.00</b> |

##### Equity

|                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Restricted Net Assets         | \$ 5,000.00         |
| Opening Equity - Other        | \$ 15,507.00        |
| Total Opening Equity          | \$ 20,507.00        |
| Net Operating Surplus/Deficit | \$ (1,339.00)       |
| <b>Total Equity</b>           | <b>\$ 19,168.00</b> |

|                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b> | <b>\$ 24,812.00</b> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|

### Notes to the Financial Statements

The deferral method is used to recognize revenues. Revenue is deferred when received in advance of the fiscal period when the service is provided. Memberships received after August 31 are treated as memberships for the following year and the revenue is deferred accordingly.

A contingency fund of \$5,000 was established in 2017 to be used for unanticipated emergencies. This is an internally-restricted asset under the control of the Board of Directors.

The PFN's investments are held in an investment fund administered by the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough. This fund is valued in the Financial Statements as of the end of the previous fiscal year.

The Peterborough Field Naturalists is the sole beneficiary of The PFN Legacy Fund which is held by the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough. Because it is held by the Community Foundation, the Fund is not shown in the Annual Financial Statements. By law, this Fund generates a minimum annual grant of 3.5% of the total monies in the Fund as of the end of the previous fiscal year. This is referred to as the "Legacy Fund Grant" in the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures. The Legacy Fund was valued at \$45,280 at the end of 2020.



PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS

## Treasurer's Report

### 2021 Annual General Meeting

This has been an unusual year for the Peterborough Field Naturalists due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have had to postpone some initiatives but have been able to carry out many others, including donations to the Kawartha Land Trust, to the Otonabee Region Conservation Authority for refurbishing the Jackson Creek Trail, and to the Monarch Relay to assist with their fall run. This is due to the generous support of our members, whose donations and membership fees continued to flow in. Although we ended the year with a small deficit, this was comfortably covered by our historical surplus.

Thanks to the generosity of our members, we are in a very good position for the upcoming fiscal year.

Over the past year, we have continued our efforts to improve our electronic banking services. We changed our financial institution to the Kawartha Credit Union to have access to a better range of digital services. Subsequently, we established a procedure to pay membership dues and other payments to the PFN. The uptake of this service by members has been very gratifying.

Last October, Ontario proclaimed the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act 2010. This Act eases difficulties for very small charities such as ours around the requirement for an external audit, which can be very costly. The new Act allows the AGM of a small charity to waive the requirement for an external audit or a review and that is what we are asking of you. The Board feels that even though there will be no formal audit, there should be some form of informal review of the PFN's financial records. I am therefore making the following motion:

***That the requirement for an external audit or review of the PFN Financial Statements for 2021 under the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act 2010 be waived and that the Board of Directors develop a procedure for an annual informal review of the PFN's financial records by a committee including one or more persons not members of the Board of Directors.***

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Vale,  
Treasurer





Clockwise from top right: Northern Shrike on Nicholson Rd on January 3 (Steve Paul), Eastern Screech owl napping in barn on January 29 (Michael Gillespie), Bald Eagle on the Otonabee River on January 14 (Robert DiFruscia), Barred Owl (Cathy Douglas), Barred Owl on Division Road (Sarah Swales)

# Membership Application Form

Memberships may be  
obtained by mailing this  
completed form to:

Peterborough Field Naturalists  
PO Box 1532  
Peterborough Ontario K9J 7H7



**PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS**

## Contact Information:

Name(s):

Phone(s):

Address:

Email(s):

I would like to receive The Orchid by (pick one): ☐ Mail Delivery ☐ Email ☐ Both

## Membership type and fee schedule:

**Notice:** Membership fees provide only a small part of the funds required to operate the Peterborough Field Naturalists. Donations from members like you help us offer a diverse range of programming for everyone. Please consider including a donation with your membership so that we can continue to serve you and the Peterborough community. **Please make cheques payable to Peterborough Field Naturalists.** For E-Transfer go to <https://peterboroughnature.org/membership/join-online/>

I have included a donation with my membership fees:

☐ Yes or ☐ No

If yes, amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

1. Single Adult \$30 ☐

2. Single Student or Youth \$15 ☐

3. Family \$40\* ☐

**\* Please give the names and ages of children wishing to enroll in the Junior Field Naturalists:**

| Name | Age |
|------|-----|
|      |     |
|      |     |

| Name | Age |
|------|-----|
|      |     |
|      |     |

## <<< New Member Information >>>

### Main interests:

☐ Natural Environment

☐ Reptiles and Amphibians

☐ Botany

☐ Birds

☐ Aquatic Life

☐ Geology

☐ Insects

☐ Astronomy

☐ Mammals

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### How do you hope to participate?

☐ Outings

☐ Citizen Science

☐ Meetings

☐ Junior Naturalists

## Volunteers are always needed. Are you interested in any of these activities?

☐ Join the PFN Board

☐ Sit on research or conservation committees

☐ Lead an outing

☐ Assist with meetings

☐ Work on field projects

☐ Help with the Orchid publication

☐ Help the junior naturalists

☐ Give a presentation

## Liability Waiver (New and Returning Members):

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 my underage children.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_