

The Orchid



March 2023

Volume 69, 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



An Idyllic Scene in a Wesleyville Wetland

Wood Ducks resting on a log in the foreground with a Green Heron flying over and an Ontario Power Generation powerhouse in the background. Photo captured by Gerry McKenna on a trail camera. Please see page 7 for information about the presentation on Wesleyville at our upcoming in-person Annual General Meeting on the evening of Thursday, April 13.

Inside: Nature in March
PFN Juniors Back in Action
Introducing Clear Your Gear
Book Review: Ministry for the Future
Former Gravel Pit Now Managed for Conservation
Results of Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count

In this Issue:

PFN Coming Events	3
Announcing PFN Camping Trip in June.....	6
Upcoming Annual General Meeting.....	7
Volunteer Corner	7
Newcomers Learned to Tap Maple Trees	8
Apply for a PFN Community Projects Grant	10
PFN Research Grant Results Published.....	11
Outing Report - First Day Walk.....	11
Outing Report - World Wetland Day Outing	12
PFN Junior Field Naturalists Back in Action!	12
Gravel Pit Now for Conservation.....	13
Results of Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count...	14
Book Review: Ministry for the Future	15
March Nature at a Glance.....	16
Steve's Swan Sightings.....	16
Introducing Clear Your Gear	17
The Orchid Diary	19
PFN Membership Application.....	22





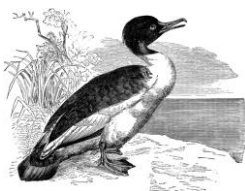


Welcome new PFN members!



- Ken Trevelyan
- Jasmine Barrick, Callym Nice
- Alexander Leyland
- Jeff & Jeanine Cooper
- Lou Smyrlis
- Christopher & Katie Barr
- David Seymour, Dani Couture
- Paige Brunelle
- Lori Waldbrook
- Mary Goldsmith



Clockwise from top: Male Pileated Woodpecker (Laurie Healey), Peregrine Falcon at Quaker Oats (Marilyn Hubley), Red Squirrel (Don McLeod), and a Tree Sparrow "having a spot of tea" (Cathy Douglas).

PFN Coming Events	
Dates and times to be announced	<p>Nature Appreciation Walks</p> <p>With winter coming, it is more difficult to find “topics” to offer for outings. That doesn’t mean we can’t get together. For many of us who have been PFN members for a long time, we have found friends to go for walks with regularly. If you are interested in joining others for nature walks, send me an e-mail. If there are topics you are very interested in, mention that in your response. I will keep a list and when the weather is kind, will send out an invitation. The time and day of the week will change as will the location and degree of difficulty. Sometimes there will be a theme depending on the leader I am able to recruit. Sometimes it will just be a nature appreciation walk. When you can attend, just respond to the email I send out. To register, e-mail sueparadis@hotmai.com or call 705-559-2061</p>
Dates and times to be announced	<p>Wildlife Tracking Outings</p> <p>PFN member, Don McLeod, will once again lead members on one or more outings during the months of December 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 donaldmcleod.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.</p> <p>Accessibility: Moderate to somewhat challenging. These outings will all involve walking in snowy conditions.</p> 
<p>Thursday, March 9</p> <p>Doors open 7 p.m.</p> <p>Meeting starts 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Hybrid meeting: Zoom + in-person at</p> <p>Camp Kawartha Environment Centre 2505 Pioneer Road</p> <p>Maximum 45 attendees</p>	<p>PFN Monthly Meeting – Presentations by Three 4th Year Trent Student Recipients of PFN Grants:</p> <p>Spatial scale of Habitat Selection of White-tailed Deer presented by Jenna Knight. Jenna has been looking at the spatial scale of habitat selection of white-tailed deer in the Peterborough Crown Game Preserve in Apsley using GPS collared deer within the game preserve.</p> <p>A Look Into the Diversity and Dispersal of Stinkbugs in the Trent Nature Areas presented by Olivia Bettencourt. Olivia is working on an entomology thesis. Her talk will look at the ecological importance of studying various orders of insects and the impacts collecting baseline data can have on conservation efforts.</p> <p>Variations in the Brood Sex Ratios of Tree Swallows in Response to Environmental Quality presented by Maela Kaminski. Maela’s project compares the nestling sexes of tree swallow broods to the environmental quality pre and post laying by using long-term data from unmanipulated nests from past field seasons alongside data collected during her 2022 field season.</p>  <p>From left: Maela Kaminski, Olivia Bettencourt and Jenna Knight</p>

PFN Coming Events		
<p>Sunday, Mar. 12 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 15 participants</p>	<p>Returning Waterfowl on the Otonabee</p> <p>The spring migration gets underway with the lengthening days in March and increased hours of sunlight. This trip will visit various locations along the Otonabee River and possibly a bit further north, to find returning waterfowl and early spring migrants. It is anticipated there will be Common Goldeneyes and Bufflehead doing their spring courtship rituals. Common Merganser, with the males in their bright spring plumage, will also be present. We can hope to see Trumpeter Swans and Bald Eagles along the river as well. Steve Paul and Laurie Healey will be leading this annual late winter outing. Bring binoculars and telescope if you have one. Dress for the weather forecast for the day of the outing. An afternoon break for lunch or a warm drink in Lakefield is planned. For further details and to register, contact Sue at sueparadis@hotmai.com or 705-559-2061 after March 4. Accessibility: Easy</p>	
<p>April 8 and 22 1 to 4 p.m. 15 participants</p>	<p>The Fascinating World of a Vernal Pool</p> <p>In the spring forest when vernal pools melt and fill with rain, life returns to these ephemeral wetlands. As soon as water appears, fairy shrimp hatch and are soon joined by hundreds of other organisms. These are the breeding grounds of wood frogs, spotted and blue-spotted salamanders and numerous other creatures. The salamanders migrate to the pools on the first warm (10 °C) rainy night and generally stay in the pond a few weeks to mate. We hope to put down cover boards to find some species and will be checking a pool for the eggs of wood frogs, spotted and blue-spotted salamanders and for some of the many organisms that live and breed in these unique woodland ponds. We will also be listening for calling frogs. Dress according to the weather and consider wearing rubber boots. We will return to the location on April 22 to check on progress and enjoy some early spring wildflowers. Sue Paradis and Jeff Cooper will be leading. To register and for more information on location, contact Sue after March 4 at sueparadis@hotmai.com or call 705-559-2061.</p> <p>Accessibility: Moderate with walking around woodland ponds</p>	
<p>Thursday, Apr. 13 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>PFN Annual General Meeting at Peterborough Golf & Country Club</p> <p>Please see advertisement on page 7 for details.</p>	
<p>Saturday, Apr. 15 7 to 9 p.m. 20 participants</p>	<p>Sounds of Spring</p> <p>The dusk air of the spring carries the mating songs of various species of frogs and the sky dance of the American Woodcock or Timber-doodle. Join Sue Paradis and Rachel Baehr for a 2-hour outing to distinguish between the different species of calling frogs and listen to the courtship flights of the American Woodcock and Wilson's Snipe in the provincially significant Cavan Swamp</p>	

PFN Coming Events	
	<p>wetland. Contact Sue after March 4 at sueparadisis@hotmail.com or 705-559-2061 to register and for further information.</p> <p>Accessibility: Easy, walking along a closed roadway.</p>
<p>Sunday, Apr. 23 8 to 11 a.m. 5 participants</p>	<p>Johnston Drive Pond Trail</p> <p>This area is a hidden gem few people know exist and provides a great opportunity to see and hear some shy and elusive herons, bitterns and rails. There were 34 species seen on this walk last time it was offered.</p> <p>You will definitely need rubber boots and as the trail provides a few crossing challenges, the walk is considered moderate difficulty. Also, you must be VERY quiet to NOT disturb wildlife. Register by email to stevepaul70@gmail.com (or call 705-930-8370) after March 4. Details on the meeting place will be sent when Steve confirms your spot. Accessibility: moderate 3.2 km</p> 
<p>Sunday, May 7 8 to 11 a.m. 10 participants</p>	<p>Lang-Hastings Rail Trail</p> <p>Steve Paul will lead a walk along the Lang-Hastings Trail (LHT), from Keene Rd to Technology Drive and back. This section of the LHT travels through two beautiful marshland sections with a deciduous forest in the middle. This mixed habitat is great for seeing all that spring has to offer and provides a chance to see lots of returning birds. Be sure to bring your binoculars and dress for the weather of the day. Register by email to stevepaul70@gmail.com (or call 705-930-8370) after March 4. Details on the meeting place will be sent when Steve confirms your spot.</p> <p>Accessibility: Easy walking along a level rail trail. 2.6 km</p>
<p>Sunday, May 21 8 to 11 a.m. 15 Participants</p>	<p>Spring Birding in the Catchacoma Old Growth Forest</p> <p>The Catchacoma Old Growth Forest, located in the Northern Kawarthas, is well known for its giant eastern hemlocks (some of which are over 300 years old) as well as its numerous moss-covered granite boulders, lichens and fungi. It is also a sanctuary for many bird and animal species. This outing, led again by Stewart MacDonald, will focus on searching for spring migrants including warblers and other songbirds known to breed and pass through the Kawarthas. The meeting place will be the Forest Parking Lot off Hwy 507. Stewart will provide more details upon registration. The outing is on uneven and occasional muddy trails and would be considered of moderate difficulty. Good walking footwear is recommended. Participants should dress for the weather of the day and be prepared for the arrival of spring insects. Please e-mail Stewart at stewjmacdonald@aol.com to register after March 4 and preferably before May 1, or call Sue at 705-559-2061.</p> <p>Accessibility: moderate.</p> 

PFN Coming Events	
June 19 to 22	PFN's First Annual Camping Trip to Algonquin Park Please see advertisement below.
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	
April Date and Location TBA	Spring Ontario Nature Regional Meeting The next meeting of the Nature Network Lake Ontario North Region will take place in April (date to be confirmed). It will be hosted by the Durham Region Field Naturalists, Thickson's Wood Land Trust and Pickering Field Naturalists with a field trip to Thickson's Woods. PFN members are welcome to attend. This meeting will also include an election for the Lake Ontario North Regional Director (2-year term for a total of 3 terms). Regional Directors also sit on the Ontario Nature Board of Directors. If anyone would like to nominate a candidate for this position, please contact Barbara MacKenzie-Wynia (barbaraw@ontarionature.org). <div> </div>

PFN's First Annual Camping Trip to Algonquin Park from June 19 to 22

Pog Lake & Kearney Lake, Campground A -- Centrally located on the Hwy 60 Corridor, close to many attractions. Pine forest setting, beaches, hiking, biking, birding, butterflying etc

Hosted by: Colleen Lynch & Don McLeod (Site 177) and Sue Paradisis (Site 133)



Arrival: Monday, June 19 at 2 p.m.

Depart: Thursday, June 22 at 2 p.m.

Each member is responsible for booking their own campsite ASAP as sites are filling up fast. Both tents and trailers (RVs) are welcome.

Campground reservations website: <https://reservations.ontarioparks.com>

Please email Colleen Lynch at clynch166@gmail.com to register for this event and provide her your campsite number and equipment (e.g., tent or trailer).

In addition, PFN Members who are not camping are welcome to join in on Tuesday, June 20 and Wednesday June 21 for day outings. More information to follow.

If you have any questions, please contact Colleen Lynch at clynch166@gmail.com or Sue Paradisis at sueparadisis@hotmail.com or call 705-559-2061.

PFN's Annual General Meeting

Please join us! Details as follows:

Date: Thursday, April 13

Location: Peterborough Golf & Country Club

Social Hour: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. – hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic drinks (cash bar)

AGM: 7:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Speakers: 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Admission is free for this members-only event.

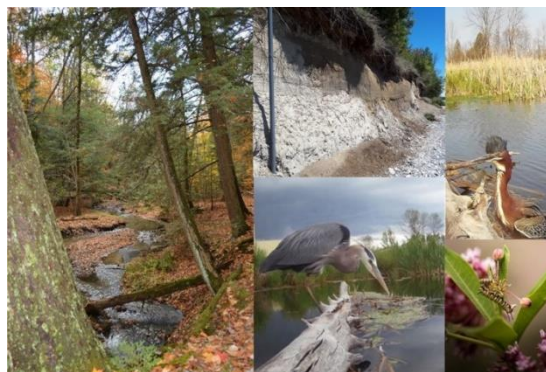
Note: Reservations will be through Eventbrite. The link will be sent at a later date. RSVP by April 1.

This year's AGM guest speakers will be Gerry McKenna and Jenny Jackman. Their talk is entitled: **The Ecology of Wesleyville and the Activities of Our Joint Working Group**

WBFN members Gerry McKenna and Jenny Jackman will provide an overview of the activities of the Joint Working Group – Wesleyville; a joint group of the Willow Beach Field Naturalists and the Northumberland Land Trust. Their presentation will include a description of the ecological features that make Wesleyville important in our County, a synopsis of the surveys undertaken by volunteers of the two clubs, and some of the challenges in conserving these lands.

Jenny Jackman is a retired materials scientist, and worked at the Canmet MATERIALS federal laboratory for many years. She is now a member of the Willow Beach Field Naturalists and spending most of her time working on conservation.

Gerry McKenna is a biologist who retired from Ontario Power Generation in 2020 as the manager of the Climate Change and Biodiversity section. Gerry is a member of the Willow Beach Field Naturalists and spends his time on habitat conservation issues.



Collage of images from the Wesleyville Natural Heritage Area from the WBFN website

Volunteer Corner

Call for Board Members

The Board of Directors is responsible for making all the good things happen that you enjoy as a PFN member. We organize meetings, outings and programs; and carry out advocacy to protect the environment that we love.

Are you interested in helping to manage the PFN as it faces the challenges of the next year, which include:

- a return to live services after the COVID-19 epidemic fades;
- continuing our transition to the world of digital communications;
- advocating to protect our natural environment in the face of pressures from development and climate change;



- involving more young people in PFN objectives and activities.

If so, the Board is looking for new members to join our group of volunteers committed to the PFN. We are anticipating two vacancies this year and would like to bring the Board up to full complement. If you are interested, please contact Ted Vale, the Chair of the Nominating Committee at treasurer@peterboroughnature.org.

Tech Support for Hybrid Meetings

As we move into offering our monthly meetings through a hybrid model, we are looking for volunteer(s) to provide in-person tech support during these meetings at the Environment Centre. This is a perfect opportunity for anyone who wants to volunteer a little bit of their time with the PFN and who also happens to regularly attend our monthly meetings. Tasks include getting the speaker and their presentation set up on the laptop that's available and ready to go at the Environment Centre, and starting and monitoring the Zoom portion of the meeting using the same laptop. A document with detailed instructions will be included. If interested to learn more or to sign up, please e-mail Reem Ali: reemest@hotmail.com. She will walk you through all of the steps and answer any questions you might have about the process.

The Land Between

The Land Between (www.thelandbetween.ca) is undertaking a regional wide insect survey program to quantify and qualify impacts of development on abundance/biomass of moths. Volunteers interested in assisting with some black light sampling during the summer of 2023 are required. A small stipend to support travel and/or supplies is available. If you have experience with conducting field surveys of this nature, please contact info@thelandbetween.ca



New Canadians Centre families at Camp Kawartha for maple syrup fun, March 2022

PFN Helped a Bunch of Newcomers Learn to Tap Maple Trees, and It Was Sweet

Submitted by Jay Fitzsimmons

Maple syrup is so wholesome. It is nature, culture, fun... and delicious! It is also a symbol of Canada. Last spring, thanks to PFN funding and volunteers, we helped a bunch of newcomers make their own maple syrup for the first time. It went wonderfully. Read this story, and I hope it warms your heart.

It started with food talk. I'd been talking with someone at the New Canadians Centre about something unrelated to PFN. Then we got chatting about food. She was from Vietnam, and enjoyed making stir-fries. I mentioned that I sometimes add maple syrup to my stir-fries (don't judge me until you've tried it!), and that blew her mind. We got chatting about maple syrup, and how it seemed so mysterious that you can get delicious syrup from a tree trunk. Looking at it from the perspective of a newcomer, tree tapping seems half-magic.

"Ok," I asked, "What if we helped some New Canadians Centre families try making their own maple syrup?" That's how it started.

The equipment – PFN support made it all possible

Last year I applied for, and received, a Community Projects grant from the Peterborough Field Naturalists. With this money (\$270), I purchased 15 sets of maple-tapping equipment from Home Hardware. Each of the 15 tapping sets included a spile (tap), drip pale with lid, and storage bucket with lid.

The people – the New Canadians Centre

The New Canadians Centre (NCC) were integral partners throughout the project. Anne Elliott and Jess Devlin of the NCC were already planning an event for NCC families to visit Camp Kawartha and see how maple-tapping works. Jacob Rodenburg of Camp Kawartha kindly let me join the event.

A school bus full of NCC families attended the event at Camp Kawartha. My kids and I overheard a lot of different languages being spoken by folks on the bus – it was wonderful. Jacob taught everyone, in a fun way, how sap works in maple trees. Then I taught them how to tap a tree, getting kids to volunteer to do the steps on an actual tree in the camp's forest. Then Jacob shared maple syrup treats with everyone, which my kids over-enjoyed.

One of the participants, Say Rish, made a video of the trip and posted it to her popular YouTube channel. Check it out: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jp_0cNIYF9I

Finding trees for aspiring tappers

Several families wanted to try tapping maples and making syrup themselves. I provided them with loan kits and instructions. I designed the instructions to be mostly picture-based, since many folks don't yet read English fluently. Then I worked with these families to help them find a tree they could tap, if they didn't have home access to one.

Several people, including PFN members, kindly volunteered their maple trees for NCC families to tap. What generosity! Thanks to these tree-sharers, several families got to tap trees and make their own maple syrup.

I didn't anticipate the personal connections made between families and tree hosts. Tapping requires daily access to the tree for about three weeks. Over that time people bonded.

2023

The main challenge for families making their own syrup was the boiling-down process. Boiling off so much water on your stovetop isn't good, as it produces a ton of moisture which is bad for ceilings and such. People innovated with various things, but the best approach was using an Instant Pot outdoors. Plug it in outside, turn it on sauté setting, and it boils down the sap efficiently and easily. But not everyone has access to an Instant Pot. This year I got an Instant Pot donated by my mom's friend, which I can lend out to an NCC family wanting to make syrup this year.



Left: Olivia drilling a maple tree in the back yard of neighbour Tammy Salem in the south end of Peterborough. Right: (from left to right) Olivia and her syrup-making friends Syu and Astrid; Tammy; my daughter Iris; and me in Tammy's yard

If you have an Instant Pot you can donate, or lend for the several weeks of syrup season, please let me know.

Also, please let me know if you have a sugar maple at least 25 cm diameter at breast height on your Peterborough property you'd allow to be tapped by an NCC family. Especially if you live near downtown.

Overall

Awesome. It was great to see newcomers experience maple tapping for the first time. Their excitement was obvious – one of the newcomers gave me a jar of the syrup he'd made, and I was so happy to see his pride at the syrup's colour and quality. Lots of laughs along the way too! So many generous people volunteering to help. The world might seem depressing sometimes, but things like this remind us that people are good and kind.

I'll be planning another event with NCC for this year's tapping season. Hopefully more families will get to experience the magic of making maple syrup.

It is thanks to the generous financial support from PFN that this project happened. Thank you to Martin Parker and the Board for making it possible to buy the supplies. And thanks to all of you who are reading this for supporting PFN!

Apply for a PFN Community Projects Grant for Your Special Project

The Peterborough Field Naturalist (PFN) Community Projects Grant initiative was created to support members or community partners in enhancing the naturalist community or natural environment in Peterborough and the Kawarthas.

These grants are possible through the generous Bringeman bequest and through donations from our members which have been deposited in the PFN Legacy Fund, managed by the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough. This is an endowment fund which provides an annual income for the PFN. The Board has allocated part of the annual income to support members and community partners in projects they wish to undertake.

This year the PFN is able to offer a limited number of grants up to \$300. Each application will be reviewed by the PFN Grant Selection Committee. Please attach any supporting documents such as letters of permission if your project is on private or public lands.

The objectives of the PFN Community Projects Grant align with the PFN motto: "To know, appreciate, and conserve nature in all its forms."

Eligibility:

PFN Community Projects Grant is available to a member of the PFN or non-profit group for the purposes of completing projects or research that:

1. Enhance understanding of nature through education or research
2. Restore or conserve habitat through stewardship or restoration

When a grant is awarded, it is requested that:

3. Projects are completed within 8 months.
4. Upon completion, a short project report is submitted to the PFN bulletin, "The Orchid". Pictures are encouraged.

Eligible Costs:

Grants may be used to cover project expenses such as supporting volunteer involvement, material costs, printing, data analysis, field equipment or supplies. Overhead expenses such as payroll or salary are not eligible.

Application Form:

The application form is available on the PFN website www.peterboroughnature.org or by contacting Martin Parker at mparker19@cogeco.ca.

Submission:

Please submit a completed application to the attention of Martin Parker at info@peterboroughnature.org. Applications will be reviewed by the PFN Grant Selection Committee who will submit a report to the Board.

PFN Research Grant Results Published**Submitted by Martin Parker**

In 2019, the PFN awarded the first research grants for undergraduate students doing a research project as one of their 4th year courses. The following report was received from Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan regarding the proposal she submitted.

"Happy New Year! I have great news to share with you: my colleagues and my research on Round Gobies was funded by a PFN legacy grant back in 2019, and I am happy to share that one of the papers coming out of this work is finally published and available here:

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jfb.15297?casa_token=sQWaeWaIxFAQAAAAA%3AfV2O7eSMY5Azqn8w8B6AUXMJw-FM6hGWvC2ptexz6bl0495Bp7TYmnpRc_4GPBWhRQ0iJeaK7ucQ09o

"Thank you again for supporting our research, especially a student-led project like this. The first author of this paper, Emily, was my undergraduate assistant during the field and lab components of this work and she included part of the results in a research course. I am very happy that she was able to get her first publication out of it. I am hoping to work on another paper from this project once I have wrapped up my PhD thesis (this was a side project with one of my committee members, Mike Fox, and not actually part of my thesis)."

The PFN research grants are funded from the annual income received from the PFN Legacy Fund managed by the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough. Contributions to the Legacy Fund can be made by contacting the Community Foundation.

Outing Report – First Day Walk**Submitted by Colleen Lynch**

Ten members of the Peterborough Field Naturalists joined outing leader, Sue Paradisis, for our First Day Walk of 2023. Members met at Camp Kawartha Environment Centre and hiked the Trent University Nature Trails. Nine species of birds were counted with highlights being White-throated Sparrow and Ruffed Grouse whose presence was identified by an orange patch and some scat in the snow underneath a thick cedar canopy. Thank you to Don McLeod for his identification skills and pointing out tracks and to Kathryn Sheridan for maintaining an eBird list. A great time was had by all!



Photo: Esther Aguilar

Outing Report - World Wetland Day Outing

Submitted by Sue Paradisis

Seven people gathered on February 2 at the Rotary Park Trail to observe World Wetland Day. The theme for 2023 is Restoration. Unfortunately, here in Ontario, protection has never been more important. We have lost 70% of our wetlands in the southern portion of the province and with Bill 23 that will only get worse. We need to keep up the pressure on our governments.



Brown Creeper. Photo: Don McLeod

To appreciate wetlands, we walked the shore of the Otonabee River from the London Street footbridge to Inverlea Bridge passing the little, but still valuable, wetland by Turtle Island. Don pointed out rabbit tracks while I mentioned some of the wetland wildflowers that grow along the shore such as White Turtlehead and Closed Bottle Gentian. Silky dogwood was growing next to the more recognisable Red Osier Dogwood.

Notable was the ice covering the river almost to Parkhill Road. Just a week ago there was only a narrow ice shelf along the shoreline. With colder temperatures, frazil (slush) ice was floating down in the current and building up above the booms at the dam. Frazil ice forms when the cold air temperatures and wind combine to cause surface water to cool below 0 °C but be unable to form a solid cover of ice because of the fast, moving water.

As we walked along the river, there was a noted absence of birds, but we did find more tracks, including mice and squirrels. Our return walk along the Rotary Trail was much better birding. Don's good hearing caught the call of a Brown Creeper and, with patience, we were all eventually able to see two actively foraging. They demonstrated their known method of searching for food by crawling up and around the tree trunk and then dropping to the base to make their way back up.

As we passed a backyard with a feeder and a tall buckthorn with berries, we were able to add more birds to our list. A huge flock of mallards flew over and with the aid of the photos he took, Don was later able to pick out the wood duck that had been seen for a few days with the mallards.

It was a beautiful sunny day to get out with only the beginning of the wind that was bringing in the cold front for the next day.

Our eBird list included Wood Duck, Mallards, Blue Jays, Black-capped Chickadees, White-Breasted Nuthatches, Brown Creepers, European Starlings, House Finches, American Tree Sparrow, Dark-eyed Juncos, and Northern Cardinals. Tracks spotted were Eastern Cottontail, American Gray Squirrel, and Shrew sp.

PFN Junior Field Naturalists Back in Action!

Submitted by Jennifer Lennie

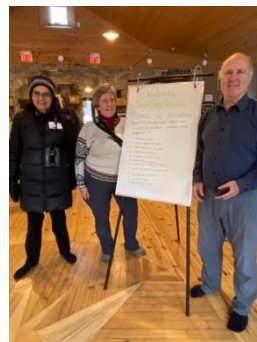
On Sunday, January 22, nine children with their parents and grandparents became citizen scientists for the day, contributing data to the annual Christmas Bird Count 4 Kids. The event was held at the Camp Kawartha Environment Centre, which provided excellent bird watching opportunities at the bird feeders and along the trail network.

Many thanks to volunteers Chris Risley, Erica Nol and Cathy Douglas, who shared their expertise and led the bird count. Participants were pleasantly surprised to learn that collectively they had observed 69 individual birds and identified 11 species, including: Mourning Dove, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy

Woodpecker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, American Goldfinch, American Tree Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco and Northern Cardinal.

The event was capped off nicely with some hot chocolate and apple cider, and the weather cooperated beautifully as well. All in all, this was a great way to kick off the Junior Field Naturalist programming for 2023.

To help guide future plans, a survey has been sent out to families of Junior members. Please check your email inbox and take a few minutes to provide your input! If you have a child aged 5-12 in your life that might enjoy being enrolled in the Junior Field Naturalists, you can contact us at juniors@peterboroughnature.org.



PFN Christmas Bird Count for Kids event volunteers. From left: Erica Nol, Cathy Douglas and Chris Risley

Otonabee Conservation Announces Former Gravel Pit in Otonabee-South Monaghan Now Being Managed for Conservation

Media Release: Peterborough, Ontario (January 25, 2023)

A former gravel pit within Otonabee-South Monaghan Township is now being managed for conservation. This announcement comes as the gravel pit license for the Otonabee Conservation-owned property near Crowley Line and Rosa Landing Road was surrendered by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNR).

This site was originally acquired by Otonabee Conservation in 1977. The main purpose of this acquisition was to conserve a section of wetland shoreline on the Otonabee River and to provide a site to develop a Conservation Area after the aggregate was depleted.



The former gravel pit in the winter.

Aggregate extraction has been inactive in the licensed pit since the late 1990's and since, the area has naturally regenerated with many biophysical features including functional wetlands that provide homes to a variety of flora and fauna.

Recently, the NDMNR determined that the property in its current state provides ecological value for the adjacent Otonabee Midriver Complex Provincially Significant Wetland and as Species at Risk habitat, in particular for nesting turtles. It was deemed that further rehabilitation work would not be necessary as most of the licenced area of the property has naturally regenerated over time. This has been an objective of many past Otonabee Conservation Boards.

"We look forward to protecting the natural habitats, diverse species, and surrounding sensitive ecological features of this property," shared Jessie James, Manager of Conservation Lands at Otonabee Conservation, "We will be managing this site for conservation purposes and recreational pursuits such as hiking and birdwatching."

More information will be available in the coming months about plans to open the site to visitors. Visit otonabeeconservation.com for updates.

Editor's note: This place is a local treasure to nature and nature-lovers, including the PFN. PFN Board member, Steve Paul, led a PFN outing there last year.



Results of Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count

By Colin Jones, Count Compiler

The 36th Petroglyphs Christmas Bird Count was held on Thursday, January 5. It was very calm (excellent listening conditions) but foggy/overcast for most of the day with temperatures slightly above zero.

Most lakes and ponds were frozen so there were no waterbirds detected this year. Don Sutherland reported that Jack Lake south of Narrows Point was open, but it was so foggy you couldn't see a thing.

- Participants: 37 (above average)
- Total species: 31 (slightly lower than the 10-year average of 33.4)
- Total individuals: 1,728 (10-year average is 2,443)

Overall, it was a very quiet day as there was very little natural food and we had to work hard to detect the birds (lots of pishing, squeaking and owls calls to draw the birds in).

Typical overwintering species were at about the 10-year average numbers (some were lower than average). This included species such as Downy, Hairy and Pileated Woodpecker, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted and White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, and Golden-crowned Kinglet.

Notable species:

- *Black-backed Woodpecker*: 1 (Once an annually detected species, this species has only been recorded on 4 counts since 2009.)
- *Winter Wren*: 3 (Only the 7th time detected on this count.)
- *Bohemian Waxwing*: 8 (Low number. The average number of them on this count over the years is 34 with a record high of 318.)

Low Counts:

- *Blue Jay*: 25 (Near the all-time count low of 21 in 2011. Most individuals detected were associated with feeders.)

Winter Finches:

- *Evening Grosbeak*: 57
- *Pine Grosbeak*: 18
- *Common Redpoll*: 37
- *Red Crossbill*: 1
- *White-winged Crossbill*: 1
- *American Goldfinch*: 1,833 (10-year average is 192 and count high is 727)

Misses:

- *Red-tailed Hawk*: Recorded in low numbers on most years.
- *Northern Shrike*: Historically recorded most years in low numbers but over the past 10 years only recorded on half of the counts.
- *Canada Jay*: A once annual species but only recorded 4 times over the past 10 years.

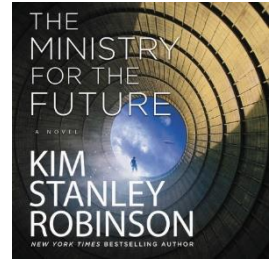
The count circle (including the 6 areas) can be viewed at the following link:

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

Book Review: Ministry for the Future by Kim Stanley Robinson

Reviewed by Marilyn Freeman

It's rare that speculative fiction gets a review in a magazine aimed at field naturalists but this novel covers so many bases of interest to those recognizing that the Anthropocene has changed climatic systems to the point of trophic catastrophe.



This compelling story opens with a disastrous “wet bulb” heat wave that kills most of the inhabitants of a city in India. A new international crisis body is created to protect all living creatures, present and future. It's called the “Ministry for the Future” and is led by Mary Murphy, the former foreign minister of Ireland. There may - or may not - be a ‘dark ops’ contingent attached. Along with the plot line there is much hard science, economics and speculative military strategy. Occasionally, dialogue even provides some dark comic relief. It's a book that will explain, teach, beguile and infect the reader's imagination.

The thread that ties it all together is the struggle of Mary Murphy and her team to make the changes necessary. The team is diverse in their expertise: everything from legalities, ecology, geoengineering, economics, and refugees to insurance and banking. The members of the ministry develop their *modus operandi*. Between their progress reports (and all the info contained therein) are interweaved stories of ordinary people and how they're coping - or not - with what climate change is throwing at them. (e.g., miners in Namibia; Frank, a survivor of the wet bulb event and his PTSD; sailors who are modern slaves in the fishing industry; refugees stuck for years in European camps; black ops targets - business jets go down, container ships are torpedoed, cows are drone dartsed with mad cow disease.)

The novel has four general areas of interest: economic, sociological, political and climate. The reader will learn about things they've never or hardly heard of. One of the remarkable aspects of this book is its research. Because this was my second read-through, I took the time to check what was “real”. Other than the story line and dialogue, all the facts were substantiated and sometimes even predictive!

For example, there is the “Leopoldian land ethic”: What's *good* is what's good for the land. Robustness and resilience are “inefficient” but “good”. While vast electrical grids are efficient, they're not resilient because they are vulnerable to the effects of ice storms, war, and terrorism. Conversely, neo-liberal capitalism concentrates on efficiency and growth to the detriment of all else. (Efficiency and growth are “good”. Resiliency doesn't count.) In neo-liberal analysis, we only think in economic terms (i.e., Everything is held up to effects on GDP). Health, happiness, social capital and unpaid labour are *not* included in GDP measurements. There exist lots of other ways of measuring such as the “Gini coefficient” which looks at wealth disparity in a population.

Robinson characterizes the times we are living through right now as the “Trembling Twenties” in which “The order of your time feels unjust and unsustainable and yet massively entrenched, but also falling apart before your eyes. The obvious contradictions in this list might yet still describe the feeling of your time quite accurately.” I learned about the “Mask of the Red Death Syndrome” and how it summarizes our pathological response to the climate crisis. Basically, we're all gonna die so party on, babe! Cognitive dissonance explains the human tendency to deny that any climate catastrophe would happen to them - even in the face of evidence to the opposite.

I don't want to give the impression that this is a doomsday negative book. It's not. Through myriad efforts, a bit of balance starts to return. One of the projects is rewilding areas all over the world through the Half Earth movement. What's important is creating CONNECTION with the beings of the wild. As rewilded areas become connected via corridors, animal populations rebound. Many are tagged and can be traced in their wanderings. Humans can watch animals from afar via webcam streams on the Internet. Their lives and deaths are being noted by people and this creates connection. Another successful project is some crazy

geoengineering on how to stop glaciers like the Thwaites Glacier in Antarctica from sliding into the sea. The technique is possible. I looked it up!

The best in this speculative fiction is that the author shows how nothing that has been developed by humans is carved in stone. There are some fantastically creative economic ideas on how the world can get out of the mess it's in. Of course, I had to learn about blockchains... still working on that.

March Nature at a Glance

From the Book *Nature's Year in the Kawarthas* by Drew Monkman

The first songbirds return this month with Red-winged Blackbirds and robins leading the way; bird song increases accordingly. Large numbers of waterfowl can be found on open sections of lakes and rivers. The first Tree Swallows return to the Kawarthas. This is also a great month to hear a variety of owls.

Mammals with a short gestation period mate this month. These include Chipmunks, Muskrats, Red Squirrels and Groundhogs. Wolves, Coyotes and Red Foxes may bear their young by month's end.

This is a good time to learn or review the calls of our frogs and toads. They are distinctive and easy to remember.

Snow Fleas are often abundant on the woodland snow. Stoneflies become more common, as well.

Mourning Cloak butterflies are sometimes seen flying on warm days. Swarms of midges and the arrival of March Flies are a sure sign of spring.

Sugar Maples are tapped this month. The catkins of Pussy Willows and aspens break through their bud scales. Lilac and Red-berried Elder buds are swelling noticeably and the first Coltsfoot may bloom. The leaves of Wild Leek poke through the snow.

Just about any kind of weather can be expected this month. The lengthening days and the increased warmth and brightness of the sun are especially apparent. Daily maximum temperatures now average 3 °C and minimums -7 °C. The mid-March sun rises at about 6:25 a.m. and sets at about 6:20 p.m.

The spring sky offers more brilliant stars and constellations than any other season. Although the winter constellations are still visible, the signature constellation of spring is Leo. The Big Dipper stands high in the northeast.

Steve's Swan Sightings

Submitted by Steve Paul

First off, I wanted to let everyone know of an important name change if you are following Trumpeter Swans in Ontario through various media channels. Ontario Trumpeter Swan Restoration Group has changed its name and is now known as Trumpeter Swan Conservation Ontario. This is to bring the group's name in line with the registered charity name, as well as align with the current work of the organization. As Trumpeter Swans have reached a self-sustaining population in this province, conservation better describes the ongoing work the group does in terms of tagging, banding and tracking, rescue and rehabilitation, as well as other research being collected for a variety of scientific and health studies.

As a follow-up to my last report on the attempted rescue of Y43 on Lake Scugog December 22, he was captured on December 26 by Andrew Wight from the Toronto Wildlife Centre. It was soon discovered he

Toronto & GTA

Trumpeter swan in fishing lines rescued by Toronto Wildlife Centre

Jane Stevenson

Published Jan 06, 2023 • 2 minute read



A trumpeter swan, caught up in fishing lines, was rescued from Lake Scugog on Boxing Day by the Toronto Wildlife Centre. PHOTO BY SUPPLIED / STEVE PAUL PHOTO

had lots of line wrapped around both wings. After being sedated, multiple wounds with embedded line were discovered. The line needed to be surgically removed and, of course, extra follow-up care was needed until he recovered. On January 17, he was successfully released and is doing well. There was an article written about the rescue in the Toronto Sun on January 6, with my photo included (shown above).

Locally this winter, there have been quite a few Trumpeters that have been seen in our area. On January 21, I traveled along the Trent River and counted a total of 32 swans at various spots, the largest being a family of ten with eight cygnets. Then up on the Crowe River near Marmora, I was able to see 45 swans in one spot. That is 77 Trumpeters in one day!! Our local Peterborough pair X66 Sadie, her untagged, unbanded (UTUB) mate, Chip, and their two remaining cygnets are all doing well. At different times they have been seen along the Trent Severn Waterway up near Lakefield as well as Young's Point, along the Otonabee River near Auburn Reach, and on Little Lake near Beavermead. Two other untagged pairs have been seen as well.

Love is in the air, and the mood at various wintering locations is changing. Courtship behaviour, new pairs forming, separation from cygnets - all of these rituals are signs that spring is coming, and very soon pairs will start heading back to their home territories

If you have any additional sightings or questions, or would like to get more involved with monitoring Trumpeter Swan activity in 2023, please let me know. I am always looking to expand the network of Swan Spotters in Peterborough and the Kawarthas.

Introducing Clear Your Gear to South-Central Ontario

Submitted by Steve Paul

Have you ever heard of Clear Your Gear? They are best described as Canada's volunteer national fishing line recycling network. They are a not-for-profit organization based out of Winnipeg that helps protect wildlife by building and distributing fishing-line collection units in an effort to divert fishing line from our landfills and shorelines.



The original Clear Your Gear was founded in 2014 through collaboration by seven conservation organizations in Florida, with a goal to help wildlife by reducing the amount of monofilament line and fishing gear left in the environment. Judy Robertson, then-President of Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre in Manitoba, introduced the Clear Your Gear project to Canada in 2016, with the official launch happening in June 2018.

Most monofilament and fluorocarbon fishing line is non-biodegradable and can last for hundreds of years in our landfills. In nature, birds and animals get tangled in line left behind through snags or line breaks, or loose line washed up or left behind on shore. Once entangled, they can be injured or die through starvation or strangulation from the line itself, or be equally impacted by the lures, leaders or sinkers attached to broken line. I know of at least several Trumpeter Swans that have been affected by fishing line injuries, and although the rescue of Y43 in my latest Swan Sighting article resulted in a happy ending, others in the past have not been as fortunate.

Clear Your Gear helps reduce the impacts of fishing line on the environment and wildlife by providing an easy way for anglers to responsibly dispose of old or unused fishing line. Any line that is collected from the recycling receptacles and cleaned of hooks, leaders, weights and other debris can be shipped in free postage-paid boxes to Berkley Pure Fishing in Iowa. Berkley melts the line down into raw plastic pellets that can be made into other plastic products primarily for the automotive industry. So far, Clear Your Gear has manufactured and delivered almost 1200 units to over 900 locations in ten provinces and one territory in

Canada. As the volunteer network of outdoor and retail locations continues to grow, their goal is to be in every province and territory by 2024.

I have already posted on various social media pages and sent e-mails to multiple organizations across South-Central Ontario. My hope is to help identify locations around Central and Southern Ontario where installing Clear Your Gear units will quickly reduce impacts on wildlife: boat launches, marinas, resorts, etc. Depending on location, varying levels of permission to install stations will be required. I am also looking for local partners and stewards who may be able to monitor the stations and collect line as well.

If you know of a spot that would be perfect for a Clear Your Gear receptacle, or would like to get involved in helping make this project a success in Ontario, please reach out to me at stevepaul70@gmail.com to discuss further. Together we *can* make a difference to help wildlife!



CYG Fishing Line Recycling Unit

Orchid submissions are encouraged!

The submission deadline for the next issue is Wednesday, March 22

Please send submissions to Kathryn Sheridan at orchid@peterboroughnature.org or mail submissions via post to: PFN, PO Box 1532, Peterborough ON K9J 7H7

Submissions can be articles, photos, anecdotes, nature book reviews, poems, outing reports, nature news, recommendations, interesting things you've learned or observed about nature etc.

PFN OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Rene Gareau	rene.gareau@sympatico.ca	705-741-4560
Vice-President	Sue Paradisis	sueparadisis@hotmail.com	705-559-2061
Secretary	Anda Rungis	secretary@peterboroughnature.org	613-298-9062
Treasurer	Ted Vale	treasurer@peterboroughnature.org	705-741-3641
Directors	Reem Ali Cathy Douglas Steve Paul Philip Shaw Fiona McKay	reemest@hotmail.com cddouglas77@gmail.com stevepaul70@gmail.com pshaw78@hotmail.com fcmckay@peterboroughnature.org	705-868-0060 905-751-5292 705-930-8370 705-874-1688

KEY CONTACTS

Membership	Jim Young	705-760-9397
Outings Coordinator	Sue Paradisis	sueparadisis@hotmail.com
Zoom Meetings	Reem Ali	reemest@hotmail.com
Ontario Nature Rep	Fiona McKay	fcmckay@peterboroughnature.org
PFN Juniors	Anda Rungis	juniors@peterboroughnature.org
Social Media	Marilyn Hubley	media@peterboroughnature.org
The Orchid	Kathryn Sheridan	orchid@peterboroughnature.org
Orchid Diary		orchiddiary@peterboroughnature.org

PFN on Social Media:		YouTube peterboroughnature
Instagram	@PtboNature	TikTok peterboroughnature
Twitter	@PtboNature	Facebook Peterborough Field Naturalists
Peterborough Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 1532, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7H7 General e-mail: info@peterboroughnature.org Newsletter e-mail: orchid@peterboroughnature.org Website: www.peterboroughnature.org		



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 orchiddiary@peterboroughnature.org (Note: new address)

Dec. 22	From Carl Welbourn: "I was out today (December 22) and came across four Bald Eagles feasting on a raccoon. Two adult birds sat in trees observing while two juveniles ate to their hearts' content. They were on Nicholson Rd between the 2nd & 3rd Lines south of Peterborough."
Dec. 25	1 American Coot , Lockside, Peterborough, seen by Cathy Douglas
Dec. 26	1 Red-breasted Merganser , Bensfort Bridge, Peterborough, seen by Matthew Tobey
Dec. 27	1 Redhead , 1 Canvasback , and 1 American Wigeon , River Road, Asphodel-Norwood, seen by Matthew Tobey. 1 Canvasback , Trent River - Asphodel 5 th Line, Peterborough, seen by Matthew Tobey.
Dec. 29	4 Eastern Bluebird , Smithsonian Road at Third Line, Otonabee-South Monaghan, seen by David Milsom & Cathy Douglas
Dec. 30	1 Osprey , Chemong Road, Peterborough, seen by Ainsley Boyd 1 Golden Eagle , Hastings Area, Old Orchard Road, seen by Jane Henry, Sue Paradisis, Kathryn Sheridan and Marilyn Hubley
Jan. 1	5 Red-breasted Merganser and 1 Redhead , Holiday Pines Park, Rice Lake, Peterborough, seen by Matthew Tobey 1 Double-crested Cormorant and 1 Redhead , and 1 Greater Scaup , Katchewanooka Lake - end of Stenner Road, Peterborough, seen by Cathy Douglas, Dave Milsom, Janice House, John Crawford, Michael Hatton and Galina Szlapetis 1 American Wigeon , Trent River, Preston Island, Peterborough, seen by Luke Berg
Jan. 2	2 Wood Ducks , Trent River - Drysdale Road, Peterborough, seen by Marilyn Hubley & Sue Paradisis
Jan. 4	1 Hermit Thrush , Otonabee River, Whitfield Landing, Peterborough, seen by Donald Sutherland 1 Winter Wren , Bensfort Corners 3 rd Line Marsh, Peterborough, seen by Donald Sutherland
Jan. 5	1 Black-backed Woodpecker , Nephton Ridge, Peterborough, seen by Luke Berg 1 Lesser Scaup , Katchewanooka Lake - end of Stenner Road, Peterborough, seen by Iain Rayner From Michael Gillespie: "Today, January 5, at 11:00 a.m., I spent a half hour observing the Quaker Oats building. A Peregrine [Falcon] was soaring and scaring the pigeons. Then, another falcon appeared of the same size, colour and habits. After the first falcon sat on the railing, the second one tried to mate with it. However, a Google search didn't provide anything on falcon mating. Why after multiple bird sightings from lots of accomplished local birders have no reports of two falcons been reported, not to speak of possible mating behaviour? I hope that this is another piece of evidence of birds feeling an early spring." (Note from Drew Monkman: At least one other birder has observed two Peregrines at the Quaker Oats building this month.)
Jan. 8	1 Red-winged Blackbird , Westbrook Drive, Peterborough, seen by Martin Parker
Jan. 9	1 Greater Scaup , Lakefield Marsh, Peterborough, seen by Cathy Douglas & Dave Milsom 1 Herring x Great Black-backed Gull (hybrid) , Little Lake, Peterborough, seen by Iain Rayner

	<p>1 Lesser Black-backed Gull, Little Lake, Peterborough, seen by Iain Rayner, Dave Milsom & Sue Paradisis</p> <p>1 Iceland Gull (Thayer's), Little Lake, Peterborough, seen by Iain Rayner</p>
Jan. 10	From Ashley: "We had a very interesting sighting on January 10 in our north end Peterborough backyard at around 8 pm. It was a full-size Virginia Opossum , mostly white with a bit of grey on tips of the hair sitting upright in the backyard. We think it is still under the back deck! We haven't ever seen one outside of a zoo and we didn't realize they were in southern Ontario. Our dog is still sniffing around on top of the deck today and was the first one to spot the possum last night which caused some very excited barking.
Jan. 12	5 Eastern Bluebird , Douro Eighth Line between River and Nassau Road, Peterborough, seen by Iain Rayner
Jan. 13	<p>From Carl Welbourn: "This week, Snowy Owls seem to be creeping back. Two were reported in the Little Britain area and a male at the Lindsay Airport."</p> <p>1 Lesser Black-backed Gull, Little Lake (Mark Street Boat Launch/Rogers Cove), Peterborough, seen by Jelissa Kollard</p>
Jan. 14	From Eric and Elaine Monkman on Gilmour Street: "Today, January 14, we had an immature Cooper's Hawk in our Peterborough backyard. It had just caught a Mourning Dove."
Jan. 15	2 Ring-necked Ducks , Trent River – River Road/LHT Lookout, Peterborough seen by Cathy Douglas, Dave Milsom and Marilyn Hubley
Jan. 16	<p>From Gord Young on Armour Road: "Just like every year for the past 15 years, the Mallard Seniors held their annual "goodbye" convention in December, just days before that big snow dump. This is the latest that they have been here. We know they are the seniors as a few have a limp-gimp, or land somewhat awkwardly. They take a walk around our Armour Road condo, starting along the riverside, and then up the east side. What a racket, as they are talking the whole time! Of course what they are saying is only known to them, but it's rather fun to hear them in what is obviously some sort of serious conversation. Then they are gone and will be back in the spring. We have no idea where the young ones are. They show up two or three times during the early summer. We know those are the year's young ones as the males are not yet in full colours. This year, we had a good population of young which is encouraging to say the least."</p> <p>1 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, County Road 45, Peterborough, seen by Sarah McGuire</p>
Jan. 22	A female Northern Flicker was at our suet feeder twice this morning, Jan 22. Jim Cashmore, Claudette Court, Peterborough
Jan. 26	1 Green-winged Teal , Rotary Park & Walkway, Peterborough, seen by Patrick Kramer
Jan. 31	From Guy Hanchet in Lakefield: "Today, January 31, I saw 10 Trumpeter Swans off the beach in Lakefield. Three were immatures."
Feb. 3	From Carl Welbourn: "On February 3, I came across a small flock of Pine Grosbeaks feeding on ash keys. They were on Douro 9th Line just north of Hwy 7."
Feb. 4	1 Northern Saw-whet Owl , Peterborough, seen by Angela Mattos
Feb. 5	From Joanne Driscoll: "A Barred Owl has been back to Raymond Street. The last time he sat for 6 hours outside of our home. He sat and watched the numerous Northern Cardinals, European Starlings, Dark-eyed Juncos, Black-capped Chickadees, Mourning Doves, and Nuthatches that

	morning all who frequent our bird feeders. At times we see a Blue Jay flying around but it does not land. Last week we saw an American Robin on Brealey Drive."
Feb. 6	1 White-winged Crossbill , Otonabee Gravel Pit, Peterborough, seen by Luke Berg
Feb. 7	On February 7, new PFN member, Claire Duffy, watched a Pileated Woodpecker working studiously for 15 minutes or more near the base of a cedar tree in her yard on the shore of Lake Chemong.
Feb. 8	1 Turkey Vulture , Chemong Road, Peterborough, seen by Erica Nol
Feb. 12	7 Pine Grosbeak , County Road 28 Marsh, Peterborough, seen by Iain Rayner
Feb. 13	1 Song Sparrow , Keene Road, Peterborough, seen by Laurie Healey
Feb. 15	1 Brown-headed Cowbird , Lakeview Road, Otonabee - South Monaghan, Peterborough, seen by Cathy Douglas
Feb. 16	1 Cackling Goose , Hutchinson Dr. Cavan - Monaghan, Peterborough, seen by Marilyn Hubley & Sue Paradisis 9 Tundra Swan , Mather's Corners Meltwater Pond and 4 Northern Pintail , Trent River - Asphodel 5 th Line, Peterborough, seen by Donald A. Sutherland While birding near Millbrook on February 16, Marilyn Hubley and Sue Paradisis spotted an Eastern Chipmunk out foraging. The next day Sue had one below her feeders. This is very early in the year for chipmunks to be out.
Feb. 17	1 White-throated Sparrow , Gilmour Street, Peterborough, seen by Erica Nol & Chris Risley 1 Carolina Wren , Edmison Drive, Peterborough, seen by Cheryl Ross
Feb. 18	32 Pine Grosbeak , Concession Street, Lakefield, Peterborough, seen by Steve Paul & Laurie Healey 1 Greater Scaup , Trent River-River Rd/LHT Lookout, Peterborough, seen by Andrea Kingsley & Kyle Blaney
Feb. 19	1 Yellow-rumped Warbler , County Road 3, Peterborough, seen by Ainsley Boyd confirmed by call identification (Merlin)



Left: A female Pine Grosbeak on Feb.5 - "one of a big flock of over 20 feeding on ash trees in Lang Village" (Bob Martin). Right: Trumpeter Swans stretching their wings on the Crowe River in Marmora on Jan. 28 (Laurie Healey).

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: _____