

Enjoying Nature in Huron-Bruce!

THE HURON FRINGE FIELD NATURALISTS' FRINGE NOTES

SUMMER - FALL
2013
WALKS,
MEETINGS
&
POTLUCKS
FREE FROM
OUR SPONSORS!

WE'RE ON THE WEB! Visit us at: www.hffn.huronstewardship.on.ca - enjoy Fringe Notes in colour!



Inside this Issue:

PAST OUTING REPORTS:	2 - 9
MEMBERSHIPS/ RENEWALS, ADVERTISING INFORMATION:	3
NEWS FROM NATURE:	9
UPCOMING OUTINGS:	10
PAST MEETING REPORTS:	10
MEMBERS' PAGE	11
UPCOMING MEETINGS:	12



From the President...

It's difficult to believe that Fall is in the air ALREADY... The wheat has been harvested and most of the straw baled....oh, I am a city gal born and raised, but spent many summers and weekends throughout the year out on my Grandparent's farm. A good old fashioned 'mixed' farm.

There was milking to do (I actually did this very labour-intensive job ONCE) as well as work in the dusty granary; I gathered eggs, picked peas in the garden and helped out in the kitchen during threshing time. Back then they didn't have the huge machinery that is used these days for harvesting, as neighbours pitched in to help each other get their crops off of the fields. It was hard work, but a good living was made. Oh times have changed, that is for sure, as we all know in any matters of life. Thus we are reminded of the changing seasons, looking forward to perhaps to some changes more than others....cool crisp nights, the trees changing colour creating our fall patchwork quilt of oranges, reds yellows and browns. Changing seasons, changing times brings me to a matter close to heart. Dennis and Marion Donnelly's change of location and moving on with their lives, so to speak. The Donnellys moved to Point Clark some 18 yrs ago and quickly embraced their new community. They both became active members in our H.F.F.N. with Dennis taking on a job as member of the Executive committee for a number of years. We wish them much happiness and continued good health in their new community of Tillsonburg. They will continue to keep in touch with our club as we will be sending them our great Newsletter. That way they can see what we are doing and that we are all behaving ourselves. I trust that one and all had a pleasant Summer and are looking forward to returning to our regular Fall life....clubs starting up, and returning to our usual planned physical activities be it swimming, playing cards, badminton, etc. Until next time, drive safe and remember...only drive as fast as your Guardian Angel can fly.
~~ Marion

LIKE TO JOIN US?

HURON FRINGE FIELD NATURALISTS MEETS THE 4TH TUESDAY OF FEB., MAR., APR., MAY & JUNE, AND SEPT., OCT., & NOV., 7:30 PM AT PINE RIVER UNITED CHURCH, HWY 21**. MEMBERSHIP IS NOMINAL—SINGLE OR FAMILY. (EXECUTIVE CONTACT NUMBERS & MORE INFO INSIDE.)
**except April, Annual Dinner in Lucknow (see winter/Spring issue.)

SUMMER - FALL EVENTS — PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Full details inside.

SEPTEMBER:

Saturday, Sept. 21st: FALL WALK, McNaughton-Morrison Tract near Exeter.

OCTOBER:

Saturday, Oct. 5: SCENIC FALL TOUR in the Auburn area

Sunday, Oct. 6: (Members' interest only – self guided) BANNOCKBURN FALL HIKE

Saturday, Oct. 19: Lake Huron SHOREBIRDS AND POTLUCK LUNCH, Point Clark

NOVEMBER:

Working on an outing - see inside!

MEETINGS: SEE BACK PAGE



TITLE PHOTO: Maidenhair Fern, Lion's Head Bluff, 2013 Bruce Explorer ~ Pepper



PLEASE NOTE:

IF YOUR ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER OR
EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGES,
PLEASE NOTIFY THE EXECUTIVE.

OUR CONTACT DETAILS ARE BELOW.

**H.F.F.N. EXECUTIVE MEMBERS
AND CONTACT NUMBERS:**

President:

Marion Fink 395-395-3701.

Past President:

Catherine Hogg 529-7748.

Vice-President:

Gina D. Davis 519-440-0403

Secretary:

Jackie Clements 396-3655.

Treasurer :

Rhodora Doughty 396-4368.

Memberships:

Kirk McNaughton 395-5711.

Speakers & Outings:

Tom Lobb 482-3342.

Joy Munn 395-3570.

Jean Kennedy

Newsletter Editor:

Jeni Pepper 395-5616.

Member-at-Large:

Linda Somerville 395- 3603 .

Social Convenors:

Barb McNaughton,

Linda Campbell

Ontario Nature (FON) Rep:

Tom Lobb 482-3342.

Website Administrator/

Email reminders:

Steve Pepper 395-5616.

Advertising:

Elaine Holmes 396-7107.

§ §

**FRINGE NOTES**

PRINTED BY:

C. & I GRAPHICS,

936 Macdonald Avenue,

Kincardine.

N2Z 1A1

(519) 396-2769

PAST OUTINGS**Spring Welcome Walk, Naffel's Creek, May 11th.**

Despite heavy rain the previous day and the same evening, eleven members donned warmer clothing for this rather cool afternoon and had an interesting wander through the woods. This tract includes mixed conifer plantations, wetland and hardwood. Boardwalks lift the walker over the wetland.

Quite a few plants were found by the wayside, ably identified by several members including Tom Lobb, Joan Dougherty and Catherine Hogg. Poison ivy was present also. A list of some of the plants seen includes Wild Sarsaparilla, Trilliums (Red Trillium or Stinking Benjamin, also called Wake-Robin), White Trilliums, and a whitish version of the Red Trillium (see photo); Jeni and



Joan spent some time getting a few good views. Blue Cohosh, Solomon's Seal and False Solomon's Seal, Marsh Marigolds, Wild Ginger, Jack in the Pulpit, several species of Violet, Sensitive Fern, Coltsfoot, Two-Leaved Toothwort, and Mitrewort. Some of us missed noticing a splendid display of fungus on a dead tree trunk, which was

beautifully captured by Bob Taylor and wife Ann Marie. The droplets on the underside make for an especially good photo. After our walk some of the members joined the Peppers for refreshments at Tim Horton's before making their way home. Always a good end to a hike! ~ Ed.

(Additional photo on next page)

**Bird Studies Canada's BAILLIE BIRDATHON, May 16th, Kincardine Lagoons**

A great total of 69 species of birds was recorded over the day's birding. A PDF copy of the list is to be emailed to the HFFN Membership and there will be some hard copies available at the September meeting. Your support of this event is greatly appreciated, and it's a fun day out, as well as making money for your Club. ~ Ed.

PAST OUTINGS Cont.

Naffel's Creek:

Tom, Heather, Joan, Steve, Bob and Catherine put their heads together over a less common woodland plant.



Wild Ginger, photo courtesy of Bob Taylor.



KINCARDINE COUNTRY DEPOT

JIM HAMILTON
OWNER



315 HAMILTON LANE
KINCARDINE, ONTARIO
N2Z 1E2
countrydepot@tnt21.com



Phone: 519-396-3451
Fax: 519-396-3454

NOTE: The June 22nd outing at the Bill Andrews farm had to be cancelled. We hope to welcome Bill back for some more of his informative talks in the future!



RiverLine Nature
COMPANY

WILD BIRD & EQUINE SPECIALISTS

Torsion Treeless Saddles
Dr. Cook's Bitless Bridles
Lowest Prices on Bird Seed in
Huron County - **Guaranteed!**

36 Kingston St., Goderich 524-4272
www.feedthebirds.ca

YOUR HFFN EXECUTIVE!

Shown here enjoying a 'business lunch': Jackie Clements, Marion Fink, Linda Somerville, Joy Munn, Jack Campbell, Tom Lobb and Jeni Pepper. Regrets: Rhodora Doughty, Kirk McNaughton, Jean Kennedy.
PHOTO: Steve Pepper.



MEMBERSHIP DUES DETAILS

It is now time for payment of dues for our 2013/2014 (September 2013 to September 2014) season. These can be paid by mail (to: Huron Fringe Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 143, Kincardine, Ontario N2Z 2Y6), or at the meetings).

The new fee structure for 2013/2014 is a straight \$20 per person, with all under 18 years of age being free. *Thanks - Kirk*

ADVERTISING:
\$30 annually; please contact the Editor at 395-5616 or email: trek66@tnt21.com



PHOTO OPPORTUNITY - FEMALE KILLDEER ON NEST, WEST SHORE ROCK AND STONE COMPANY NEAR KINCARDINE, (Pepper photo)

The Chimney Challenge

**When you need service....
We're up to the challenge!**



The Chimney Sweep's "Stove Parlour & Gallery Inc."

Marshall E. Byle

W.E.T.T. Certified • Master Chimney Sweep
Master Solid Fuel Technician • Boilermaker
• Gas Fitter

#3006 Bruce County Rd. 15
RR 2, Tiverton, ON N0G 2T0 (2 km west of Tiverton)
Phone 519 368-5274 Fax 519 368-5626

REDUCE ~ REUSE ~ RECYCLE



Tim Wellstead
786 Queen St.,
Kincardine, ON.
N2Z 2Y2

Hours:
10 - 5 incl. stat. hols; 10 - 9 Sat.
PHONE: 519-396-3323

EMAIL: www.condorfinebooks.com

PAST OUTINGS cont.....

2013 Bruce Peninsula Explorer, May 21 - 25th

Off to a great start for nine adventurous souls as we headed east from the meeting point at Sobey's and headed through Walkerton and Hanover, where we picked up lunch, and then on to the former Saugeen Valley's Headquarters Conservation Area – now known as Sulphur Springs C.A. To dodge any rain that might be on the way, the group took to the trails first, with the Sulphur Spring being the shorter walk and close by.



There are deer, a pheasant barn and waterfowl enclosure, and a lovely picnic shelter where we ate our lunch, by the big pond with its geese and ducks. The Sulphur Spring – clear and mysterious, shining in greens, blacks and aquas as it becomes a stream through the woods - we followed along on a path. The spring itself wells up from a pool about ten feet deep and several feet across. It never freezes, and can fill 27 bathtubs a minute! There is not much of a sulphur smell.

Then off to the Brant Tract, a multi-use trail which has some good walks and notable flora, including expanses of ferns, but unfortunately the mosquitoes got there before us, and although it was an interesting walk, everyone was glad to get back and hop into their cars. We arrived in Tobermory just in time for a hearty supper.



Wednesday morning, after a very convivial breakfast, we planned to visit the Bruce Alvar, followed by Singing Sands if the weather held – we all bought sandwich makings to eat out. It was raining about enough to make you go inside if you were gardening, and it looked like it had settled in, but we donned our rain gear, put a raincoat on the dog, and gamely set off. We had not seen the Alvar before when the weather had been so wet in Spring, so we were interested to find what was there.



However, after a very wet troop around, (see photo!) we conceded to the weather and also had to shelve Singing Sands. We piled dripping into the vehicles and hared off back up the highway, turning off at the Visitor Centre, where we anticipated a dry wander around. Parked outside and went up to the doors.....
(continued...)

PAST OUTINGS, cont....

'Closed Tuesday and Wednesday'! So we ended up a little damp, eating lunch back in our digs. We all looked forward to our potluck/BBQ supper that evening!

Those of us who had not brought something from home splashed over to Peacock's Groceries in the harbour, and picked up something for the potluck at six. Steve and Gord Brocklebank had moved things off the middle of the floor in the motel's work shed and set out chairs – second time in three years! So we had our barbecue in there, chattering happily while Steve and Art Doughty stayed bravely out in the cold, cooking under

the shelter of the adjacent wooden stairwell and landing above. There was plenty to eat – the small table was holding all it could, and so two people cast about the shed till they found a large bin and some thick cardboard for a table top, and we put the burgers and other dishes on there. We sat from six till after eight, and told stories and laughed, and one of the staff, left in charge while everyone else was out, came for a burger as well.

When we'd all had our fill and a good laugh and chat, Art Doughty presented the two of us with a 'Thank you!' in the form of a mysterious long, thin parcel wrapped in white paper, that had written on it, "Fragile! Do Not Bend! Do Not Crush! This Way Up!" etc. Inside was a larger version of Art's wonderful carved gnome faces, with a hat, beard, and lively blue eyes, done in basswood. We thanked him profusely – what a lovely surprise! We have named him 'Arty'! Thanks go to Rhodora too for being patient while it was created!

The next day was almost as rainy, but we had a jolly breakfast notwithstanding, after which most braved the drops to go off shopping in the village, or went for walks when it cleared for a bit. The sun was trying to come out, so a group then went to Singing Sands and had some good sightings of birds – including hearing and then seeing a Sandhill Crane, which many of us had not seen before. (See Jack Campbell's picture of Sandhill Cranes elsewhere in this issue...) When everyone got back from the hike, we put our heads together and decided to go somewhere different for supper, so we went to the new Crow's Nest and gorged ourselves on huge, thick, gooey pizzas! Of course, going-home day dawned lovely and sunny.

We set off south hopefully – we had a walk planned through the rocky woods at Lion's Head Bluff and a mushroom farm to visit!

The day turned out perfectly for the Lion's Head walk: cool but sunny. Four members had left, because they had to be home, but the rest of us had a great time. We had a good hike through the woods, rocks to clamber over, and some potholes and rock formations to look at, and a great panoramic view to admire at the top end.



Our hike began with a pleasant walk on the slightly inclined path to the bluff's trails, with some pauses along the way to admire the varied ferns and other flora including Trilliums, Field Pussy-toes, and one or two unknowns.

Continued....



Maithel Lee Wilson
Sales Representative

ROYAL LEPAGE
Kincardine Real Estate
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED, BROKER

P.O. Box 1270, 821 Queen Street
Kincardine, Ontario N2Z 2Z4

Bus: (519) 396-3396 ext. 229

Fax: (519) 396-9109

Res: (519) 395-5086

E-Mail: maithel_wilson@hurontel.on.ca



The Ark Native Plants

Art Wiebe & Janice McKean
Site 755, Bruce County Rd. 23
RR#2, Tiverton, ON N0G 2T0
519-396-7518 • 396-4971
thearknativeplants.com
theark@bmts.com

PAST OUTINGS, cont....



Rather a rare treat to see a good representation of Field Pussytoes along our way.




Pet Valu
FORMERLY...

Critter Cravings™
PET & WILD BIRD SUPPLIES

*Owned and operated by Pet Valu Canada Inc.



320 Durham Market South, Kincardine, ON N2Z 2A2
Tel/Fax: 519-396-9135
™ Trademark of Pet Valu Canada Inc.





LIONS-HEAD POTHOLE
A 10,000 YEAR OLD POTHOLE
FORMED IN LAST ICE AGE.
GRANITE ROCKS CARRIED
BY GLACIERS FROM EAST
SIDE OF GEORGIAN BAY,
ALONG WITH TREMENDOUS
PRESSURE AND WATER FLOW,
SCOURED THE SOFTER LIME-
STONE DURING AN ICE MELT.



Playing in the potholes. Steve in the lower end while Art hollers down the chimney! Gord, Rhodora and Linda look on, while Quinn wonders what it's all about.

I think we were all surprised by the mushroom farm. The owners of Wylie Mycologicals are Bill and Micky Wylie (wylie@interlog.com -- (519) 534-1570) and the farm is located on South Bass Lake Road, which is an off-shoot of the Bruce Trail, off 17, S. of Wolsley (17 is parallel to Hwy 6, S. of Wiarton).

Wrote Micky, 'Most visitors are pretty taken with learning how Woody Specialty Mushrooms are grown—which has nothing to do with darkness and manure. Tours are usually arranged on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons. Weekdays are just not predictable.' Grow bags are available if you want to experiment – and they can be sent carefully by mail with full instructions, if need be.

We gathered in a large, warm barn to begin our tour. Some of us had expected dark, dank rooms with flats of mushrooms growing in pasteurized manure – it turned out they are grown in special aerated plastic

The Wylie Mycologicals inventory includes mushrooms some of us had never seen before.



Continued...

PAST OUTINGS, cont....

bags – thousands of them, on racks - in warm, humid rooms. The spores are placed into the bags with the growth medium, and when the time is right, holes are punched in the bags, to allow the mushrooms grow out of the holes. (photo) Some then have the bags removed, leaving the mushrooms growing in a hard, brown compound like dry earth. (photo) A huge operation. A query as to whether we could buy some mushrooms resulted in shoe-box sized containers with two pounds of varied types inside! The Wylie Mycologicals web page is located at: <http://www.wyliemycologicals.ca/brochure.pdf>

After this fascinating tour, we wended our way home to our own suppers, arriving about five thirty or six. A rather wet but still great exploration of the Bruce! ~ Ed.



CLUB MOSS IN LEAF LITTER



JUNE 6th, 2013 - Canoe/Kayak trip to Arran Lake with photography by Bob Simpson. Thanks, Bob!

The day started out overcast and a bit windy as 8 people assembled at Kincardine Sobey's at 9:00 equipped with 4 kayaks and 2 canoes for our trip to Arran Lake.



After a quick hour's drive we arrived, and right on cue the sun came out. We speedily offloaded and shortly thereafter headed north-east on the lake, and up-river for a leisurely float. By now the wind had dropped off and the paddling was excellent. We continued upriver,



meandering through narrowing channels, taking pictures and enjoying a leisurely pace. After about 1 ½ hours, we started back towards the lake.



At about noon, we pulled our craft in at the 'Arran Hilton' for a picnic lunch and a break from paddling. After lunch, we paddled the north shore of the lake before heading back across to the car park. By this time the skies had started to darken and the wind picked up out of the south, making paddling a bit more difficult as we approached the car park. We managed to get all the boats back on vehicle roofs and trailers just as we encountered a few drops of rain. As usual, our timing was excellent! Thanks again to Art Doughty for leading the trip, and to everyone else for showing a 'newbie' how to enter and exit a kayak with a modicum of grace.

I'm already looking forward to next year's trip. If you have never been on this Outing, I highly recommend trying to make next year's, as I'm sure that you'll enjoy it.

~ Steve

PAST OUTINGS, cont...

Following is a letter, sent via email June 13, from D B J Martin, entitled, 'On Behalf Of Huron Fringe Birding Festival'. The event was held May 24th to June 2nd. The letter was forwarded by Executive member Jackie Clements. Thanks, Jackie!

Subject: 2013 Huron Fringe Birding Festival

Thank you for participating in the Huron Fringe Birding Festival and for most of you, thank you for coming back year after year. Below is some information that you may be interested in and some that you are already aware of.

The Huron Fringe Birding Festival has just finished its sixteenth year. Below is a link to the compilation and summary of the birds seen at the festival this year. The festival runs for eight days over 2 four day, long weekends in May. The number appearing after the bird species name designates the number of days the species was seen on our hikes. Please understand that our hikes cover most of Bruce County and some of the areas where the species were seen were not covered every day.

Next year's events will be announced on February 1, 2014 and you can register over the internet. Register early. Some of our hikes fill quickly. Our orchid hike to Flower Pot Island, a boat trip, was filled by noon hour on the first registration day and some of our bird hikes were full after 2 weeks. We keep our hikes small. Twenty for birding hikes, twelve for wild flower hikes and for some of our hikes we allow only eight people. Our prices are very low if you take the weekend packages. We have some very generous corporate sponsors that enable us to do that.

The Huron Fringe Birding Festival is based out of MacGregor Point Provincial Park near Port Elgin, Ontario. 184 species were seen during this year's festival.

Adds FRED JAZVAC:

'Bruce and Grey Counties are a natural paradise. They contain 48 species of orchids and 50 species of ferns accounting for two thirds of Ontario's totals. There are at least 78 species of butterflies in our area. A local expert claims that there are 19 species of warblers nesting here and perhaps the most nesting birds in Southern Ontario. Check our blog (link below) to see a review of the festival and list of birds seen, and leave a comment if you wish.' (COPY AND PASTE THIS ADDRESS INTO YOUR BROWSER. Use the Search button if needed.) <http://www.huronfringefest.wordpress.com>

Annual hike, corn roast and potluck, Saturday, August 7th

Even though the rain had been falling most of the morning and early afternoon, quite a few people met at Pine River Church at 12:30, for a convoy, and altogether, about 20 members arrived at Paul and Lynn's rustic, cozy cabin for our annual Corn Roast. The weather forecast had called for rain ending and clearing in the early afternoon, so everyone had fingers crossed....and umbrellas up!

By the time everyone had arrived and had a good chat to fellow nature lovers, the rain had let up and a cloudy sun came out. After enjoying some snacks that Lynn had set out for us, we went for a short walk to the pond to feed the fish and to get some photos from the observation tower. Some concern for Tom, who, we wondered, may have become lost....and he had the corn! However he did at last spot the bushy opening that is the kilometer-long, woody driveway, and found us all out and about. A leisurely stroll around the water's edge proved of interest as we paused to remark on the tall flowers and weeds that were in abundance. We went on to the backyard to see what we could spot in the garden, where Purple Coneflower, Black-Eyed Susans and pink Obedient Plants jostled for space as they provided sustenance for a variety of insects, winged or otherwise.

Shortly afterwards, the rain started to sprinkle again, so it was decided to have supper early. As usual there was a plentiful supply of great food along with corn and hot dogs. The corn that Tom obtained and cooked with Jack's help was excellent again, very sweet and tender. Steve presided over the hot dogs, cooks a little damp from the sporadic raindrops that shook off the trees in the breezes.

After supper, we had a draw for a 'no peeking!' gift basket with various goodies that Lynn and Paul had thoughtfully assembled. The winner of the prize was a surprised and delighted Wayne Fink. Donations for the draw totaled \$38, which went towards club expenses. Thanks again to Lynn and Paul for a great fund-raising idea, and for putting it all together.

After supper, the weather had cleared again and we went for a longer walk along the trails to wear off some of our suppers! With various snacks, salads, meats, fruit and no less than six kinds of dessert, we really needed the exercise! Angels Marion and Wayne Fink stayed behind to help clear up (Hmmm....wonder if they scoffed any more dessert!! Sorry, guys....couldn't resist!)



PAST OUTINGS, cont...**Annual hike, corn roast and potluck, Saturday, August 7th****HAPPY CAMPERS AND SMILING COOKS!****MOUSE-EAR HAWKWEED WITH ITS HAIRY LEAVES****SEVERAL KINDS OF FUNGI WERE DISCOVERED****~ News From Nature ~**

- Tom Lobb and Catherine Hogg attended the Great Lakes West Regional Meeting at the Guelph Lake Conservation Centre. Tom reported that the siting of wind turbines was an issue under discussion. At Ostrander Point the MNR was challenged by a local group concerned about the endangered Blandings Turtle. The conservationists won their case and prevented turbine construction.

~ Ontario Nature is adding its 24th reserve, the Sauble Dunes Nature Reserve. This provides 150 acres of forested dunes and wetlands for which a trail plan is being developed.

The next Regional Meeting will be held in Kitchener in November.

~ Wood Turtle season has been good. 80 eggs were laid in 11 clutches. In late June 56 turtles were released.

Past meetings

Tuesday, May 28th: Bill Andrews, Coastline Biodiversity of Lake Huron.

We again welcomed retired University of Toronto Professor and Botanist Bill Andrews, who gave an enlightening presentation on the effects of encroaching species - humans included - on watercourses and the lakebed, via tributaries and rivers which empty into Lake Huron, and also touched on the negative influences seen from building and clearing done on the shoreline.

Tuesday, June 25th: Peter Middleton, *The Changing Arctic*.

Our last meeting before summer, Peter Middleton gave a very interesting presentation called 'The Changing Arctic'. In it he discussed how much the Arctic has been changing over the past few years and the effects on the local wildlife as well as on plants due to decreases in snow cover and warming temperatures. Not only are these changes affecting the flora and fauna but it is starting to have detrimental effects on the human population. Peter had a wealth of info for us and it was a very interesting and informative evening. We look forward to having Peter back in the future.

~ Steve.

UPCOMING OUTINGS: FALL/WINTER, 2013

Coming on an outing? Stay informed!

When planning to come along on a walk, or to a meeting, please check your email before you leave home for any additional information, or in case the event has had to be cancelled. We do try to have rain dates for walks, but cannot always arrange these in time for publication.

On Your Feet! Many of our hikes are like a walk in the park....but not all! If you're thinking of lighter shoes for an outing, do check the announcements for a note on the expected terrain, or call the contact number. Bring your treaded hiking shoes or boots along....just in case!

OUTING CHECKLIST: cell phone, binoculars, bird/plant/other guides, bug repellent, hat, water, hiking stick, sunglasses, hanky, area map, snacks, thermos (in car), waist/backpack, boots for rough/wet terrain. In Spring and Fall: rain slicker, gloves.

Fall Walk, Saturday, September 21st



MacNaughton-Morrison Tract near Exeter.

From areas north, meet at Pine River

Church, 12:00 pm. Meet at Bartliff's Bakery & Restaurant at 46 Albert St. (Hwy 4) at Rattenbury St., Clinton, located on the west side of the road before the lights, at about 1:00 p.m.

Continue to Exeter. 4 km loop, easy to moderate. This all-season trail winds through the picturesque Ausable River Valley between MacNaughton Park in Exeter and Morrison Dam Conservation Area on Morrison Line. The river, trees, birds and wildlife make this an ideal setting for a nature trail. The trail passes through towering hardwood and pine forests, skirts along the Ausable River and gives a bird's eye view of the river valley at several lookouts. It's also one of the best places to see the area's unique white squirrels. The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority is the trail contact. No washrooms evident. Maybe after the walk we could gather at 'Tim's' in Exeter for a break.

Club Contact: Tom Lobb, 482-3342



Scenic Tour, Saturday, October 5th.

Details: Meet at Manchester Riverside Park, 1 km south of Auburn on Baseline Rd, at 1:15 p.m.

Where: We will go for a scenic drive in the Auburn area, with a couple of short hikes as well. Hopefully, there will be some good fall colors.

Route: Riverside Park and old mill site - Maitland Block - hike old rail trail - Blyth Brook - historic Ball's Bridge - Little Lakes - hills of Colborne - Saratoga Swamp - Robertson Tract - hike on Maitland Trail - back to Auburn. **Notes:** Since some roads are narrow, and parking is limited, we will try to squeeze into 3 or 4 small vehicles. For anyone wanting to come a little early and have lunch, there is a nice family restaurant, the Auburn Grill, on Blyth Road at the east side of Auburn. For anyone wishing to stay after the hike, they have a good supper buffet. There are washrooms there. There is also a portable at Riverside Park by the scenic bridge. **Terrain:** Easy to moderate. **Contact: Tom Lobb, 482-3342**

Bannockburn Fall Hike



Sunday, October 6, 2013 ** (Members' interest only - self guided) ******

This is the 40th anniversary of this popular autumn tradition, so 2013 will have some special features. Come and enjoy the autumn colors and trails of beautiful Bannockburn Conservation Area. Bring a mug to enjoy apple cider; local apples will also be available. Visit abca.on.ca to download a free audio tour of sites and sights to experience, and for more details of the event. Start time is 1 p.m. (till 3 pm.) and admission is by donation. For more information, contact Denise Iszczuk at ABCA at 519-235-2610. This hike is a Healthy Hike.

UPCOMING OUTINGS Con't.....

Point Clark Fall Migration Birding and Potluck

When: Saturday, Oct.19th:



Time: 9:30 am to lunchtime. (Some birders may prefer to arrive earlier and meet the rest at 9. 30)

Details: Member-at-Large Linda Somerville (395-3603) would like to host this year's popular fall event again.

Meet fellow members near the Point Clark Lighthouse; dress for the weather, and bring a potluck casserole or dessert, binoculars and a couple of candies! We'll see how many shore birds, ducks and geese we can spot.



Potluck lunch to follow at Linda's. Drop off your dishes when you arrive, and Linda will keep them warm. If you have time constraints, or not too inclined to be out birding when it's colder, just join us for lunch! **For directions, please email Steve BEFORE THE DAY at Trek66@tnt21.com or call 395-5616.**

TELL US WHERE TO GO!

Know of any good places to enjoy nature? Please bring them to the attention of your HFFN Executive. You don't have to lead an outing unless you'd like to. We will arrange outings to these new places so that everyone can enjoy them. Call Tom at 482-3342. Or talk to any of the Executive at any meeting..... we'll do the rest!

STOP PRESS! NOVEMBER -

We're working on the possibility of a walk or other outing. Watch for an announcement - wear suitable clothing/footwear for the weather!



Members' Page...

What Our Members are Doing!



Photographs always welcome; please send them in JPEG format, over 100 kbs and under 500 kbs....thanks!



FOLKS!!

Don't forget the **PHOTO CONTEST** in February! Bring your best Un-retouched Ontario nature shots, **5" X 7", or 4" X 6"**, to enter for the February Potluck Meeting. **Subject for 2014: 'LAKE VIEWS'** Keep those cameras busy!

...Speaking of which, here is a great picture of Sandhill Cranes near Cargill, sent in by Jack and Linda Campbell. Thanks, guys!



New Members

Welcome and 'Happy Trails' to:

Joyce Bean, Auburn

Bill Cannon, Tiverton

Brad Rotteau, Goderich

HFFN Tee shirts and/or Caps...

Information is pending....if you wish to order, we will have a list available at meetings.

We will try to obtain size measurements as related to chest measurements if possible.

This opportunity will not be repeated for some time to come, so order if you want any!

Contact: Steve Pepper

~ ~ ~ REGULAR MEETINGS ~ ~ ~

Regular meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Pine River United Church, Hwy 21



DRINKS..... 1.00
TREATS..... FREE!

Social Time: 7. 30 pm
Meeting: 8:00 pm



BLUEBIRD BOXES

MANY YEARS AGO, the newly-formed H.F.F.N. planned and held a 'Bluebird Box Building Bee' managed by members Geoff Walker and Doug Broderick. The bird boxes were installed along several concession roads and maintained by volunteers for some years. The Executive has tried over the years to keep track of those who get out to do this and we wish to give our thanks to ANDY AND BARB BURGESS, who are currently monitoring boxes, mostly east of Lucknow. A feather in your caps, guys!
~ Ed.



UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tuesday, September 24th:

This information was regrettably not available in time for publishing, as several options were being explored due to unavailability of several potential speakers. We will announce by email if possible. Whatever it is, sure to be something interesting!

Tuesday, October 22, 2013:

Our October Speaker will be Frances Poole, Ph.D, who is an archaeologist specializing in the identification of bones, both human and animal. She has been on many digs in the Maritime provinces and Atlantic seaboard of the U.S. Her talk will be about identifying bones from archaeological Sites.



Tuesday, November 26, 2013:



Our November Speaker will be a return from John Reaume, an M.D. from Mount Forest who will give a presentation on Warblers. You may remember that John gave a very interesting talk on Dragonflies and Damselflies last season, so we look forward to seeing him again.

HFFN WELCOMES A NEW VICE PRESIDENT

Your HFFN Executive is pleased to welcome member Gina Dalkin Davis into its ranks as Vice President.

Gina and her husband Walter, members since 2012, attended the Corn Roast at the Zinn property in September, when President Marion Fink wondered out loud whether anyone would like to fill the position. Gina responded and as our year runs from September to August, Gina's term will be effective immediately. We hope she'll have a great time as a new voice in the Executive, which always welcomes incomers.

Says 'Prez' Marion, 'We are delighted to say the least!'

Wisdom of the Ancients:

Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed!



IN OUR NEXT ISSUE....

YOU may have noticed a change in the timing of your delivery of *Fringe Notes*. This change reflects the fact that there is no longer a January meeting. Instead, the Winter/Spring issue will cover events (such as winter walks and the February Potluck and Photo Contest) from where the Summer/Fall issue leaves off, up until the point where early Spring events such as the homecoming of the Swans in Lambton, the Hullett Wildlife Area visit and Newton Reserve Spring Cleanup have been scheduled, and this issue should be available for the February meeting.

In the Spring/Summer issue, look for scheduling for Spring walks, such as the Kincardine Lagoon exploration, Spring Welcome Walk, and any other upcoming warmer weather outings, including, we hope, canoeing, and something about a Bruce Peninsula over-nighter, which is usually scheduled during the week after the May 24th weekend.

Thereafter, a September issue should be available which gives information on the Summer/Fall season. Issues will be out as soon as events information is available, with any other information posted on email. We will notify any unforeseen event changes ASAP.