



25 YEARS!



25 YEARS!

Fringe Notes SPRING, 2010



HURON FRINGE FIELD NATURALISTS, Box 143, Kincardine ON. N2Z 2Y6
We're on the Web! SEE US AT: www.huronstewardship.on.ca

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From the president:
We are writing this under duress as the Olympics are on T.V. and Canada has won Gold & Silver in the Women's Bobsled. It takes a lot of dedication, time & commitment to reach your dream.
You will read in this Newsletter how your Club establishes the Executive. It has been my pleasure {fun} to be President of H.F.F.N.
We (the Executive) are still in hopes of someone to come forward for President and work with those still willing to serve on the Executive. We will know after our Annual General Meeting on April 27th in Lucknow whether we will be closing the books after June or getting things in order to start again in September.
Over the years that I have been a member, we have had excellent leaders for outings & speakers for our Monthly Meetings. An example of the expertise within the club was presented by Glen Holmes at our members meeting. Glen put together an excellent slide show of past outings, and birds and their calls. A big thanks, Glen!
~ Jack

REGULAR MEETINGS – PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
Full details inside.
MARCH – Cindy Cartwright – Hummingbirds
APRIL - David Pearce for the Annual Meeting: Polar Bears.
MAY & JUNE ARE TO BE ANNOUNCED....REMEMBER TO MAKE A NOTE WHEN YOU HAVE THE INFORMATION!



WHO are these people and why are they waiting for us to follow them along this woody path?? ANSWER INSIDE!



Of Note...



Former members Jo Manning and Al Beecroft, formerly from 'the Swamp' Ashfield Township, now living in B.C. Jo is an engraver and printer extraordinary and now an author of 'A Printmaker's Memoir'. Jo is currently exhibiting her works at London's Art Exchange, 247 Wortley Rd. Joan (Dougherty) and I travelled to London to view her work; it is absolutely brilliant. The Exhibit runs through March 21 2010. ~ Catherine Hogg.

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**We have new members** to welcome.... Jorgen Hertzum-Larsen & Janice Hertzum-Larsen of Tiverton. We have been unable to contact them via email or phone to tell them that we seem to have the wrong email address to send them this Newsletter. Hopefully this situation can be rectified soon.

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Juncos appeared in Point Clark March 2nd...**Robins** on March 14th.



We're on the Web! SEE US AT: www.huronstewardship.on.ca



**PLEASE NOTE:**

If your ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER or EMAIL ADDRESS changes, PLEASE NOTIFY THE EXECUTIVE.

Our contact details are below.

President:

J. Campbell 395- 5144.

Past President:

Maithel Lee Wilson 395 5086

Vice-President: OPEN

Secretary:

Pat Armstrong 396-5856

Treasurer

Rhodora Doughty 396-4368

Memberships:

Dennis Donnelly 395-0682

Speakers & Outings:

Tom Lobb 482-3342

Joy Munn 395-3570

Jim Armstrong 396-5856

Newsletter Editor:

Jeni Pepper 395-5616

Member-at-Large:

Greta Thurber 395-4144

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**Social Convenors:**

Pat Armstrong 396-5856

Elaine Holmes 396-7107

**Ontario Nature (FON) Rep:**

Tom Lobb 482-3342

**Website Administrator/****Email reminders:**

Steve Pepper 395-5616

**Advertising:**

Elaine Holmes 396-7107

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Fringe Notes is published three times a year for members of HFFN. Membership is \$12/ year for single and \$18/ year for family.

PAST OUTINGS

WINTER WALK –Saturday January 23rd 2010.

Nine members met at Station Beach at 1pm for a walk south along the beach in bright sunshine. We retraced our route along the old railway and continued up stream past Geddes Park. The birds must have known bad weather was coming for they were all in hiding. Most rewarded themselves with coffee at Books and Beans accompanied with good conversation.



EAGLE WATCH - Saturday February 20th 2010.

Four good looking gentlemen braved a sunny and windless afternoon looking for eagles. First a flock of Turkeys was observed. Glen estimated they numbered 'more than one and less than a hundred'. Only two eagles were seen in the woods west of Lake Range Road but a few more were spotted at Scott's Point. Lake Huron had very little ice cover and it is out on the ice the eagles like to sit. Back at Baie Du Dore, there were more eagles. One took off from a tree and soared in the sun, much to the Gulls' displeasure as the group tried hard to stay above and behind the eagle. Also in the bay were two ravens feeding on the rocks, and two Mute Swans. Again coffee was the observers' reward. – Jim Armstrong



Swans at the Lambton Museum. Saturday March 20th. 2010, 9 am



Contact: Jim Armstrong, 519 396-5856. Tom Lobb, 519 482-3342.

When: Car pool from Pine River United Church at 9am or at the Suncoast Mall Goderich at 9:45am.

Details: This is a good opportunity to see Tundra Swans and other birds as they migrate north. We will tour by car along the flooded fields of the Thedford Bog south of Grand Bend. The Lambton Museum will be open with its interesting displays and exhibits of wildlife and the early settler days. There are washrooms in the museum. Bring a lunch. There are usually drinks to be purchased. There is an entry fee to the museum of \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for children (2009 fees). www.returnoffhswans.com is a great website to read about the swans and to get up to date reports on their arrival. Therefore the exact date will depend on the birds' arrival. *Phone or email the contacts to see if the date is changed.*

Newton Reserve - Wednesday, March 31, 2010, 10 am



Purpose: Work Party

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Leader: Tom Lobb 519-482-3342

Details: The trails need a good clean-up! Come out and help with clearing dead limbs, picking garbage, pruning, repairing steps etc. Bring a lunch. *Let Tom know by March 30 if planning to come.*

Rain Date: Thursday, April 1

Directions: The reserve is south of Goderich on Kitchigami Road and just east of the intersection with Porter's Hill Line.

Hullett Wildlife Area - Saturday, April 10, 2010, (times below)

Where: Meet at the viewing stand on the west side of the waterfowl sanctuary at 10:00 a.m.

Those from the north may wish to carpool at Pine River Church at 9:00 a.m.

Directions: HWA is 5 km north of Clinton on London Road, then turn east on Summerhill Road and go 4 km to the parking lot by the viewing stand. (Look for the HFFN sign!)

Contact: Tom Lobb 519-482-3342

Details: We should see swans, geese, several duck species, and other early migrants. Bring binoculars, scopes, and a lunch. There is an outdoor washroom at Hullett that we can use. Usually, the staff have the office complex open for us to have lunch, and to use the indoor facilities, especially if the weather isn't good.



Spring Welcome Walk – Goderich - Sunday, May 2nd, 2010, 2 pm

Contact: Steve & Jeni Pepper, 395-5616

Details:

Meet at the parking area at the Menesetung Bridge, on the north harbour access road, 2 pm. We'll have a mosey across the railway trestle bridge and along the woody paths to see what we can see, and hear what we can hear. Optional walk to the Tiger Dunlop Tomb, or maybe have a meander along the old railroad tracks up on the bluff to admire the panoramic view of the Maitland river valley. Washrooms are usually available in the town courthouse (outside doors to basement). We will hop over to Tim's for refreshment later!



Kincardine Lagoon, Saturday May 15th 2010, 9 am

Contact: Jim Armstrong 519 396-5856

When: Meet at the Kincardine soccer field parking lot on Bruce Ave. at 9 am.

Details: This is always a popular walk to the sewage lagoons and the old railway trail to see the Spring return of many bird species. It is an easy and casual walk. There are no washrooms along the trail. You may want to bring some bird seed, as the birds are always willing for a close encounter when there is food available.





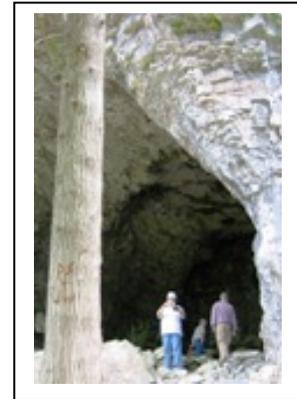
UPCOMING OUTINGS.... **CONTINUED**

Bruce Peninsula Explorer, Tuesday May 25th – Thursday May 27th **(stayover optional)**

Contact: Steve & Jeni Pepper, email Trek66@tnt21.com or 395-5616

This year we'll spend our first day tracing a slightly different route up to the 'tip o' the Bruce'. Stayover is optional so it can be a day or two or three, whatever the preference. If you have never been up there, why not join us and find out why part of this area is a World Biosphere Reserve. We will endeavour to cater to all walking preferences, with some easy and some more rugged terrain to explore.

If you are interested, please contact us and we'll send you more information.



Canoe at Arran Lake, Wednesday June 9th 2010, 9 am

Contact: Art Doughty 519 396-4368 or Linden Thurber 519 395-4144

When: Meet at the Kincardine Zehr's parking lot at 9am.

Details: We need to know who wants to go on what has become an annual event and who is bringing a canoe along on this outing to observe shore and marsh birds.

Rain Date - Thursday, June 17



Green Dragons and Wood Turtles - Tuesday, June 15, 2010, (times below)

Where: Meet at the parking lot at the ball diamond in Benmiller at 9:45 a.m. Those from the north may wish to carpool at P.R. church at 8:45.

Leader: Tom Lobb 519-482-3342

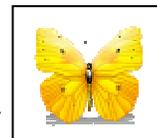
Details: We will walk the Lobb nature trails along the Maitland River north of Holmesville. We should see many rarities, including Green Dragons, Twinleaf, Gromwell, May Apple, Giant Swallowtails, and nesting Bald Eagles. After lunch at the picnic area, we will drive over to the Wood Turtle nest sites and hopefully get to see this endangered species.

Notes: The trails are easy walking. Bring bug spray.



Butterfly Count - MacGregor Point Park, July 3rd

The MacGregor Point Park website gives the Butterfly Count date as July 3rd. ***This is the same date as the Kingshurst outing.*** If interested in the Count, contact the park for more information and to register for the count (see website next page).



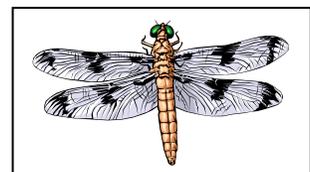
Dragonflies & Damselflies / Kinghurst Forest - Saturday, July 3

When: Meet in the parking lot at Zehrs in Kincardine at **8:45 a.m.**

Leader: Dr. John Reaume

Contact: Tom Lobb 519-482-3342 or Jim Armstrong 519-396-5856

Details: John will lead us on a walk through the Kinghurst Forest and



(NEXT PAGE PLEASE...)



Dragonflies & Damselflies / Kinghurst Forest - Saturday, July 3

Continued.....

show us some of the fascinating species that he talked about at the November meeting. After lunch, we will move to a wetland west of the forest to see even more of these remarkable insects.

Dr. Reaume suggests we wear long pants and good hiking boots. Also, bring binoculars and butterfly nets if you have them..

It should be an easy walk. Bring bug spray. Washroom available.



NOTE:

John is also leading a walk for the Huron Fringe Birding Festival and wants the club members to be aware of that. He is leading the Saugeen club through the Kingshurst Forest on June 27, so he will have all the Dragons and Damsels scouted for us! He added that if a club member couldn't make our walk, they are welcome to join the Saugeen outing, but he felt that a joint outing would be too many people for getting good looks at the insects (12 to 14 is ideal). **Huron Fringe Birding Festival Dates: May 28 – 31 & June 3 – 6, 2010. Information: <http://www.friendsofmacgregor.org/>**



'WHO IS THIS?' ANSWER....

As a few of our longest-standing members will know, and some of you will have guessed, this photo from HFFN's first few outings is of our founders, Joe and Crystal Burgess, then of Point Clark. They had recently moved to the area, bringing with them their log cabin building business and their fondness for nature of all kinds. In the spring of 1985, the word went out that there was to be a meeting at Pine River Church in the hopes of setting up a local nature club. Surely Joe, standing as founder and first President that evening in front of everyone, must have been pleased and honoured

to have had 45 interested people waiting to hear what he had to say!

Soon we were all enjoying the bountiful nature around us and learning about what we saw. Not just the flora and fauna, but also some geology, history, ecology, and swamps! We seemed to visit quite a few swamps and wetlands, and learned the locations of many different species and their ecosystems.

Joe led us on wonderful after-dark Owl-Prowls, when we carried recordings of owls to play, tempting the territorial curiosity of live owls in the area which would fly over to see what was going on. We would carry flashlights to spotlight them, much to their surprise. We went out in winter, and we went out in the rain....as Joe laughingly said, "Why not? Rain's nature!" It was always fun, and educational. Joe and Crystal moved away several years later, leaving us this wonderful legacy which is now ours, and, sadly, seems about to end. For those who may enjoy reading them, here is one particular memory of a Club outing, and a copy – complete with typos which hopefully may be forgiven – of the very first HFFN Newsletter, which Joe wrote:

First, a memory. One of many jaunts out and about with Joe was an outing to a bog, (possibly Langside Bog, near Lucknow,) where we hoped to encounter various flora, mosses and birds indigenous to bogs in general. Ruth Walker and another lady had said that they would love to find some wild cranberries.

For some reason or another, two lady members were offered, and accepted, a ride to the area generously offered by Joe; but he had not mentioned that he was leaving his vehicle at a friend's house, and the friend, Syd, was going to drive the rest of the way. However, it was all the same to them, so at Syd's house – situated along a number of gravel roads – everyone clambered into Syd's small car – perhaps it was a Datsun – and off they went. Presently the ladies in the back became aware, due to encroachings of dense clouds of dust about their heads, that the car was without its rear window. Nevertheless, Syd drove expertly over the gravel at a good speed, chatting the while to Joe, who sat next to him. Suddenly the brakes were firmly applied....the vehicle skidded almost to a halt on the gravel....the dust cloud caught up with the car, smoking out the back seat and mixing quite happily with the exhaust fumes...and Joe exclaimed gently, "You don't brake for *butterflies*, Syd."

Duly arriving at the bog, members found themselves bravely following along as Joe, more used to hopping from grass tussock to grass tussock, progressed across the black, sucking mess, turning to point out safe places to step as he went. Syd followed a little way back, very warily, and generous with a helping hand when someone needed one. Presently, delighted exclamations were heard as Ruth and the other lady were shown some wild cranberries, and Ruth took a small sprig that she was probably hoping to garner seeds from for her own growing. Syd gallantly offered to help carry the berry sprig as they made their way back to firm ground, but found himself suddenly up to his hips in the black muck as his foot slipped off a tussock. As everyone watched, he managed to put one foot up onto a tussock and lift himself – and the berries – out of the bog and back to dry land, commenting as he did so that his wallet had kept him afloat.

~ J. Pepper



First page of the first issue of this newsletter, with welcoming comments from founder Joe Burgess.

HURON FRINGE FIELD NATURALISTS

Issue One
April 1985

" I go to nature to be soothed and healed, and to have my senses put in tune once more "
- John Burroughs.

I would like to welcome all of you to the newly founded field naturalists club in the area. The founding of the club is an idea which has been nurtured out of a great personal interest in the natural history field. My wife and I have spent many hours in the field sharing and enjoying nature. We hope through the club we can share some of our experiences that you can enjoy them as we have.

We were thrilled to have 45 people attend the first meeting and almost as many people who phoned but could not attend. Martin Parker from Port Elgin gave a talk on the importance of field naturalist clubs, expressing the important role they can play in the knowledge of Ontario's flora and fauna.

At the top of the page I have mentioned a name for the club just so there would be one there. This is by no means the one final decision so if you have an idea for the club name, let's hear it! Remember the person who submits the selected name will receive a full year's subscription to 'Seasons', a magazine put out by the Federation of Ontario Naturalists.

The club held its first field outing on Saturday, April 21st. We visited the Great Blue Heron heronry south of Lucknow. In relation to the film shown about the life of the Great Blue Heron we saw at the first meeting, it was interesting to observe this magnificent bird with greater understanding. Males were observed carrying nesting material and presenting it to the females to place where they saw fit in the nest. We also observed a bit of bickering, as some males landed at the wrong nest. After returning to our home for dinner we had a nice taste of watercress, gratefully brought by Jeff Walker and his wife Ruth. After dinner we patiently waited for the courtship display of the American Woodcock and were rewarded finally to hear and see him.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR HURON FRINGE EXECUTIVE GROUP....

The Huron Fringe Field Naturalists was formed 25 years ago. In the time since, it has been very active and successful. We have many members who are not on the Executive that contribute to the club. These include:

- Sending out reminders of club events.
- Building and maintaining Blue Bird boxes.
- Providing goodies at meetings.
- Contributing to the annual members' meeting.
- Hosting outings.
- Providing raffle prizes.
- The Plant sale.
- Maintaining the trails at Newton Reserve.
- Hosting guest speakers.

There are probably other things members do for the running of the club that we have missed. If so, I hope that you will speak up and remind us.

Unfortunately, however, there is an unwillingness of members to serve on the Executive. It is the Executive that puts together the club programs, including speakers, outings and special events. There is a need for directors on the Executive to help seek out the wonderful speakers we all enjoy, to organize outings, to look after the club's finances and pay the bills, to write up the minutes of the executive meetings that are held about four times a year, to publish the Newsletter and look after membership. Of course there is the position of President, to ensure that these things happen, and of Vice President, to assist the President and fill in for the President if needed.

Over the past 2 or 3 years there has been a very marked lessening of interest in the outings and in the willingness of members to become a part of the Executive. This dropping off of interest and willingness to become involved may be due to an ageing membership, or to the fact that we all have developed other interests, or some other factor. When approached to fill positions, the response has unfailingly been NO. We have Jack filling the President's chair now for the second time because it is our 25th anniversary year. However, this finger-in-the-dyke situation cannot continue. Currently we need members to step forward and fill the positions of President and Vice President. The people who are currently filling the other positions are willing to remain and would be very willing to assist any volunteer. Most of the current Executive have been in their positions for 2 years at least, and some for many more than that. In reviewing the constitution, it seems we could be reminded of a few of the sections - namely, and I quote:

'At the first Executive meeting of each club year (September to August), the Executive shall elect from amongst themselves a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer or a Secretary-Treasurer, and such other officers as desired, all to serve until the next Annual Meeting.

The President, who shall be elected by and from the Executive, shall not serve for more than three consecutive years, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

The Executive shall direct the affairs of the Club and appoint any member to serve in any capacity. Operation committees will serve for the period of the Executive and be re-appointed with the election of each new Executive.' End quote.

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Having a president is a requirement of our constitution. We are part of the FON, therefore we must have a president.

The **President** is the general overseer of the Club and chairs the meetings when he or she is present.

The other positions are:

Vice Pres. – Vacant - would assist the President as needed, as well as aiding committee heads if needed.

Secretary - Takes minutes at the 2 to 4 executive committee meetings per year. Attends to any correspondence.

Treasurer - Takes in the money from memberships and such other fundraising as we choose to do, and disburses the monies to pay for outings, meetings, speakers etc. Plus other business as needed.

Memberships - Collects yearly dues, keeps records of members and status of payment, maintains name tags and name tag box for the meetings.

Speakers - Contacts prospective speakers and arranges a speaking date with them, obtains their CV for the newsletter, and when necessary arranges accommodation. Speakers are listed in previous newsletters or in the newsletters of other clubs, or by word of mouth, etc.

Outings - Plans the outings with regard to the likely weather, interest in the suggested outing, and attempts to find any new places to go on our outings.

Newsletter - Collects the reports on outings, past and future; obtains advertisers, copies and pastes articles of interest, etc. This is a big task and Jeni has done a marvellous job and is willing to continue in this position.

The present Executive, particularly the Editor, who is passionate about keeping the club going, has discussed the current situation many times over the last years, and we have concluded that if there are not volunteers for the vacancies on the board, we will have to recommend that the Huron Fringe Field Naturalists Club be disbanded. *Without Directors, there can be no Huron Fringe Field Naturalists.*

The Annual meeting will be in April and it is at that meeting we ask for volunteers to form the Executive. This presentation will be repeated at the March meeting and at the April Annual meeting. Please consider helping the club survive, and take your turn volunteering. Don't wait. DO IT NOW!

Thanking you, Your Executive.

The 2009 Kincardine Christmas Bird Count.

PARTICIPANTS:

Marshall Byle, Ashley Hegmans, Jeff Hegmans, James Turland, Jim Armstrong, Simon Turland, Joe Johnson, Liz Addison, Bruce Edmunds, Christy Humphrey, Judith King, Dorothy Kings, Vivianne Hebert, Catherine Hogg, Margaret Anderton, Fred Jazvac, Tom Lobb, Marg MacDonald, Linden Thurber, Jack Campbell, Dennis Donnelly, Kirk McNaughton

COUNT HIGHLIGHTS

Total Species Observed: 51 (this number is below the average of 53.5)

Total Individuals Counted: 5791 (our average is 8176)

Count Week Species (cw): American Black Duck, Ring-billed Gull, Bald Eagle and Swamp Sparrow.

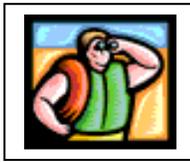
>> New Species Counted: Black-legged Kittiwake <<

Notable Highs and Lows: The following were high numbers or tied for high...Redhead Duck (1), Merlin (1), Ring-necked Pheasant (1), Red-bellied Woodpecker (4).

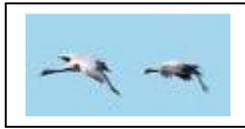
The following are low numbers and include: American Black Duck (1cw), Mallard Duck (49), Common Merganser (9), Red-tailed Hawk (5), American Kestrel (1), Great Horned Owl (1), Red-breasted Nuthatch (6), Purple Finch (1) and House Sparrow (127).

Common Species missed: Robin, Grosbeaks, Redpolls, Pine Siskin, Cedar Waxwing and Pileated Woodpecker.

The total number of different species counted over the past 26 years is 112.



Species	Kincardine	Bruce Beach	Pine River	Point Clark	Total
Canada Goose	434	7	2	17	460
American Black Duck	cw				cw
Mallard	8	41			49
Redhead		1			1
Greater Scaup		1		2	3
Long-tailed Duck	1				1
Common Goldeneye	19	37	14	4	74
Bufflehead	18	34	3	4	59
Common Merganser	1		2	6	9
Red-breasted Merganser	2	1			3
Duck sp.?		11	1		12sp
Bald Eagle					cw
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1		1	1	3
Coopers Hawk	3		2		5
Red-tailed Hawk		1	2	2	5
Rough-legged Hawk	3	3		6	12
American Kestrel	1				1
Merlin		1			1
Wild Turkey	24	21			45
Ring-necked Pheasant				1	1
Ring-billed Gull					cw
Herring Gull	179	1114	316	217	1826
Glaucous Gull		2	1		3
Great Black-backed Gull	4	8			12
Black-legged Kittiwake	1				1
Gull sp.?				4	4sp
Rock Pigeon	61	8	72	55	196
Mourning Dove	14	22	8	12	56
Eastern Screech-owl			6	5	11
Great Horned Owl		1			1
Snowy Owl	1			1	2
Red-bellied Woodpecker		2	2		4
Downy Woodpecker	5	3	5		13
Hairy Woodpecker	2	4	1	1	8
Horned Lark		5			5
Blue jay	12	1	7	5	25
American Crow	73	184	135	49	441
Black-capped Chickadee	92	104	145	36	377
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	1	2		6
White-breasted Nuthatch	6	6	4	3	19
Brown Creeper		1			1
Golden-crowned Kinglet				2	2
Bohemian Waxwing	1				1
Northern Shrike	2				2
European Starling	155	294	125	354	928
Brown-headed Cowbird	1				1
Northern Cardinal	11	10	5	3	29
American Tree Sparrow	2	72		11	85
Song Sparrow		1			1
White-throated Sparrow		1		2	3
Swamp Sparrow	cw				cw
Snow Bunting		82	221	69	372
Purple Finch				1	1
House Finch	20			30	50
Finch sp			25		25sp
American Goldfinch	109	42	102	59	312
House Sparrow	95	18	4	10	127



Statistics	Kincardine	Bruce Beach	Pine River	Point Clark	Total
Number of Species	35	36	26	30	51
Number of Individuals	1406	2155	1226	1004	5791
Participants					
Number of Participants	5	5	6	6	22
Min/Max. # of Parties	2-2	2-3	3-4	1-3	8-12
Time					
Starting Time	8:00am	7:00am	6:30am	6:30am	6:30am
Finishing Time	4:30pm	5:00pm	3:00pm	4:00pm	5:00pm
Distance (km)					
On Foot	3.5	12	15.5	5	36
In Car	198	168	309	271	946
Owling		10	30	23	63
Other					
Total Kilometers	201.5	190	354.5	299	1045
Hours					
Hours on Foot	1.75	9	6	5	21.75
Hours in Car	12.5	8	11	10	41.5
Hours Owling		0.5	1.25	1	2.75
Total Hours	14.25	17.5	18.25	16	66

Meeting Reports

November:

Our speaker for the November meeting was Dr. John Reaume from Mount Forest. He somehow got lost on the way here, and after side trips to Macgregor Point park and the cheese factory, courtesy of his GPS, he came running in just at the moment we were about to wring our hands. However he was well worth waiting for, as he has a vast knowledge of his subject (Damselflies and Dragonflies). His pictures were excellent, and he spoke very well and was quite humorous as well. He told us that he escorted the Saugeen Naturalists on an outing to the area where he took most of his pictures, and I am sure it would have been most enjoyable.

Respectfully submitted: Joy Munn.

February:

Twenty-nine people had an enjoyable afternoon and are hoping that it can happen again. A huge table was set up, and a most convivial potluck lunch ensued, with a great many tasty dishes of all kinds to choose from. Having demolished that, the tables were removed, the chairs set in rows and we collapsed into them to enjoy a wonderful show brought to us by Glen Holmes. He has put together a collage of events that the club has been part of for a good number of years past: outings and potlucks, picnics and gatherings. Interspersed between each set of pictures were close-up photographs of many birds and we were treated to hearing the call of each bird as we viewed it. A truly wonderful and creative presentation. Our thanks, Glen, for the great show, and also to our cooks who created all the marvelous food!

- Editor

~ ~ ~ REGULAR MEETINGS ~ ~ ~

Regular meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Pine River United Church on Hwy 21. Social Time: 7. 30 pm ~~~~~ Meeting: 8:00 pm
LUG-A-MUG ... BRING YOUR OWN MUG TO THE MEETING!



REGULAR MEETINGS.....

Mark your calendar!



Cindy Cartwright with HUMMINGBIRDS **Tuesday, March 23, 2010.**

Cindy Cartwright is the Founder/Coordinator of the Ontario Hummingbird Project and is one of only three active Canadians with permits to band hummingbirds in Ontario. She will bring her presentation and photographs so that we can learn and at the same time enjoy the beauty of these tiny marvels!



HFFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Tuesday, April 27th, 2010 **St. Peter's Anglican Church Hall, Lucknow, 7 PM** **Roast Beef Dinner, catered by the St. Peter's Church Ladies** **TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE MARCH MEETING, OR CALL ANY EXECUTIVE MEMBER.**

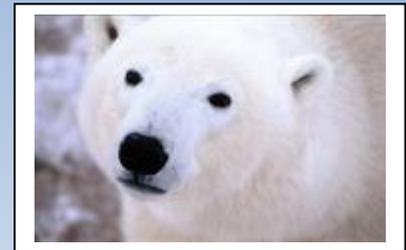
On Thin Ice: Can carbon in forests and bogs help save Polar Bears?

Polar Bears are acutely threatened by global warming and the melting of sea ice. They are perfectly adapted to ice and cold and inseparably dependent on it. The presentation examines their morphology, behaviour and biology. As more Arctic ice melts, dwindling Polar Bear populations are an early warning of climate change. *On Thin Ice* tells the story of how "ice bears", climate change and carbon choices collide dramatically in Ontario's far north.

Biography: Dave has been CPAW's Wildlands League's Forest Conservation Analyst since 2003. As part of Wildlands League's outreach he gives talks on Ontario's boreal forest, caribou and most recently, Polar Bears. He also works to improve forest management and supports the Wildlands League with natural history information. Dave is researcher and co-author of a number of Wildlands League publications, including *Caribou - Holding the Line in Northeastern Ontario*. Dave worked for a number of years as a naturalist and outdoor educator. He studied Biology at Trent University and graduated with a Masters in Forest Conservation from the University of Toronto.

Draw Prizes: Tickets \$2 each, or 3 for \$5. Please bring an inexpensive, nature-related gift *per person attending*, for the gift exchange.

Directions: Coming from Amberley to Lucknow, turn left just past the arena onto Stauffer St. (Bruce Rd. # 1). Turn right onto Wheeler; left onto Outram St.; left on Hamilton St. The Hall is behind the church (592 Outram St.) on Hamilton St.



PLEASE NOTE:

AT THIS EARLY STAGE, OUR MAY AND JUNE SPEAKERS ARE STILL UNCONFIRMED, SO WE WILL ANNOUNCE THEM AS AND WHEN WE ARE ABLE TO DO SO. WHEN NOTIFIED, REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

If you would like to advertise on this page, please contact Elaine Holmes at 396-7107



A VIEW TAKEN FROM THE KINCARDINE HARBOUR BOARDWALK, JANUARY BEACH WALK (Pepper photo)

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