



Enjoying Nature in Huron-Bruce!



WINTER INTO SPRING, 2015... WALKS, MEETINGS & POTLUCKS ~~~~~ FREE FROM OUR SPONSORS THREE TIMES A YEAR

# THE HURON FRINGE FIELD NATURALISTS' FRINGE NOTES

WE'RE ON THE WEB! Visit us at: [www.hffn.huronstewardship.on.ca](http://www.hffn.huronstewardship.on.ca) - enjoy Fringe Notes in colour!



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Winter Sunset, Kincardine, early 2014

### LIKE TO JOIN US?

HURON FRINGE FIELD NATURALISTS MEETS THE 4TH TUESDAY OF FEB., MAR., APR., MAY & JUNE, AND SEPT., OCT., & NOV., AT PINE RIVER UNITED CHURCH, HWY 21\*\*. MEMBERSHIP IS NOMINAL—SINGLE OR FAMILY. (EXECUTIVE CONTACT NUMBERS & MORE INFO INSIDE.) \*\*except April, Annual Dinner at another venue.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT GINA DALKIN-DAVIS

Autumn 2014 turned out to be a very busy season. Several fall events kept everyone busy, not only at home



putting our gardens to bed but also attending various get-togethers. Exciting and intriguing presentations highlighted our September, October and November meetings. From Madagascar's exotic inhabitants to the comforting domesticity of a Huron County apple orchard, speakers informed, entertained and delighted us. Local outings either dazzled or drizzled. The breathtaking magnificence of leaves turning colour under vivid blue skies or the drenching downpour and washout of the shoreline bird count stimulated our imaginations.

For my part, Ontario Nature occupied my spare moments. October 25/26 weekend at Geneva Park in the Orillia area brought together for the first time Nature Reserve Stewards and Atlas Area Coordinators not only to inform us of that conservancy's recent activities and future goals, but in appreciation of the work of all volunteers. On Sunday November 1st the Great Lakes West Fall Regional Meeting took place at the Laurel Creek Nature Centre in Waterloo. Tom Lobb & I attended. Once again, this presented an opportunity to learn more about activities at various regional meetings.

One project in particular piqued our interest. Ontario Nature has developed a "Best Practices Guide to Natural Heritage Systems Planning". This handy guide is generating a lot of buzz among municipal planners who have seen it. A Webinar on the topic of "Accessible Trails: Practical Design Tips" (that's a computer seminar to those of us who are technie challenged) took place December 4th.

Jaywalkers not restricted to humans! Turtles, Snakes and Frogs ....Oh, my! Ontario Nature has appealed to members.....>>> (PLEASE TURN THE PAGE..... )

### WINTER - SPRING EVENTS — PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

<b>MEETINGS:</b>	<b>Full details inside.</b>	<b>OUTINGS:</b>
February : Annual POTLUCK and PHOTO CONTEST. ....		Eagle Watch, Baie du Dore
March : Adrienne Mason, P R W I N ...		OWL PROWL
April : Steve Irvine, Nature Photography ... Our first annual dinner in our new venue!		
May : Marlene Wynnyk, Sea Buckthorn Orchard /Healing Ctr. ...Spring Welcome Walk and overnight Bruce Peninsula tour		
June : scheduled speaker: TBA ...Canoe/Kayak with HFFN's group of adventurous paddlers! (TBA) & MORE...		

TITLE PHOTO CREDIT: IN WINTER'S GRIP, WINDOW VIEW (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:**

Gina D. Davis 519-440-0403

**Past President:**

Marion Fink 395-395-3701

**Vice-President:**

(Open position)

**Secretary:**

Jackie Clements 396-3655

**Treasurer:**

Rhodora Doughty 396-4368

**Memberships:**

Kirk McNaughton 395-5711

**Outings:**

Tom Lobb 482-3342

(1 Open position)

**Speakers:**

Bob Simpson 396-5486

Margie Visser 395-3173

**Newsletter Editor:**

Jeni Pepper 395-5616

**Member-at-Large:**

Linda Somerville 395-3603

**Social Convenors:**

Barb McNaughton, 395-5711

Linda Campbell, 395-5144

**Ontario Nature (FON) Rep:**

Tom Lobb 482-3342

**Website Administrator/**

**Email reminder(volunteer):**

Steve Pepper 395-5616

**Advertising:**

Elaine Holmes 396-7107

>> *Our Club Executive is always ready to welcome new members with fresh thoughts and ideas! We meet three times a year over lunch, and new Executive members are given any help they may need for whatever assistance they may wish to give. <<*

### ***FRINGE NOTES***

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### **President's Comments, Cont.:**

...to keep a lookout for these timid but determined creatures on our roads and highways. Make a note of any road kill and keep a record of the time, date and location. Pass your sightings on to Tom Lobb.

Now to the future. Let's begin with the **Annual General Meeting** scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup>. 2015. We have successfully booked a first-rate and convenient location in Lucknow. The United Church, on Hwy. 86 going east out of town, has offered an excellent menu at a reasonable cost. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. 7 p.m. More information to follow as we get closer to that date.

On the subject of **membership growth**, if we are to remain a dynamic group, we need to continue our drive for new members. When inviting friends and acquaintances, be sure to play up our strengths: the excellent quality of our speakers on topics that both stimulate and intrigue; enjoying our natural surroundings at fun-filled field trips and/or outings that are frequently capped with delicious pot luck meals, and the chance to make new friends. Speaking of our pot lucks, they're worth the price of membership alone! Let's continue our goal to invite and sign up one new member at each meeting.

At this writing, **we have several members whose dues are outstanding.** Please bring your cheque book to the next meeting. Kirk McNaughton will be pleased to update your membership.



On the subject of funds, please remember to bring a toonie to 'feed the frog' at each meeting. Coffee, tea and goodies are paid for via our friendly little frog.

Another reminder ... *Bring your mug or teacup to each meeting.*

The **George Newton Reserve** ... what a beautiful, secret hideaway. It's a challenge, though. Trail clearance and directional signage are looking pretty desperate. This is too big a job for one person to handle. I have suggested to the Executive that we earmark the Newton Reserve as a project in 2015. Tom's devotion has been tremendous. Let's ensure that his efforts are not in vain and that we live up to our voluntary commitment to maintain the Reserve on behalf of Ontario Nature.

### **Photo Contest ... February 2015.**



Just a reminder to make a note in your calendar to bring your best autumn tree photos to the February meeting. See inside this issue!



The Executive approved an **Eagle Watch** in February and **Owl Prowl** in March with a pot luck to follow. More details to follow as we move closer to those months.

**Speaker co-ordinators** ... Bob Simpson and Margie Visser have agreed to share the post of Speaker Co-ordinator. Many thanks to you both! We look forward to our upcoming speakers.



### **Intrepid Editor ...**



Our most recent newsletter was an excellent communiqué. Full of photos, comments and news. However, Jeni Pepper, our Newsletter Editor, would love some help. We are appealing to members who attend an outing or meeting to take on the relatively easy task of jotting down a brief outline – even point form will do. Jeni will fill out the reports and amalgamate them into write-ups, so if you're inclined, bring a little notebook along and submit your take on events. And where would we be without those excellent photos that are regularly submitted. Of course, that means meeting deadlines. You can give your notes to Jeni at the end of the meeting, or send them later, via email. It's so much easier to make notes straight away than try to make them from memory weeks (or months) later. Can you help? 😊

~ Gina

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!**



**HURON FRINGE FIELD NATURALISTS  
EXTEND A HEARTY WELCOME TO THOSE WHO ARE  
JOINING US.**

**WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL ENJOY OUR  
PRESENTATIONS AND REAP THE  
BENEFITS OF ALL OR ANY OF THE WALKS OR  
HIKES YOU FANCY COMING ALONG ON! PLEASE  
MAKE YOURSELF KNOWN TO US SO THAT WE CAN  
DRAW YOU INTO OUR MIDST AND GET TO KNOW  
YOU!**



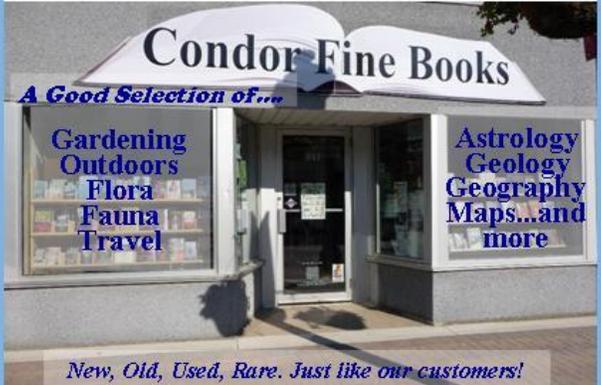
**PAST OUTINGS**



**ABOVE: This wonderful sculpture, called The Learning Chair, and made by Elmer Brubacher, and donated to the Gardens by the Reid's Corners W. I. to commemorate their 100th year.**



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**Bruce Botanical Food Gardens.**

In late September, on a perfect warm and sunny day, about 8 members traveled to Ripley to view the Bruce Botanical Food Gardens. Even though it was fairly late in the season there were still a lot of plants in bloom. We were taken on a tour by Lynne Taylor, President and CEO of the Gardens. The gardens have over 250 varieties of food plants, some rare and endangered. Also many plants that are normally considered flower garden species but are also edible. We were given samples of some aromatic herbs to bring home. Linda Somerville demonstrated the solar sundial for us! What time was it? ~ Steve Pepper

**PAST OUTINGS...cont.**

**Point Clark Beach Birding, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>.**



**Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** dawned wet, windy, 'wannabe home' weather. Undaunted, our members put on their wind-and-weather gear and got out there to the shore, only to find that any self-respecting shore and water birds had high-tailed it to some sheltered place, abandoning the mini-hurricane conditions that buffeted their usual migratory haunts. A few people arrived, saw no birds, vehicles or people, and unfortunately went home....however, our members are always up for a good feed, so most of them arrived at Linda Somerville's with their potluck dishes around eleven am to noon. A warm welcome from hostess Linda, her friendly Border Collie, Maggie, and a cheery fire awaited about eighteen to twenty of us, and we promptly got down to the pleasant business of catching up with friends. A very hearty meal was enjoyed and next time we looked up, it was

about three pm! Jack Campbell reported seeing some ducks....and that is our Migratory Bird report for 2014!

~ Ed.




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**Membership Forms in our Issues...**

**These will now be included in each issue for your convenience. Fill out, add your dues, and mail or hand in to join or renew. Done!**



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## PAST OUTINGS....cont'd

### **Newton Reserve:**

Mother Nature decreed once again that the 2014 outing be cancelled! We will keep trying and will schedule again for the coming Spring....but don't tell Ma Nature!

## Meeting Reports

### September 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting-

Kyle Horner from Guelph gave us an interesting talk titled 'An Island Apart: The Stunning and Bizarre Wildlife of Madagascar'.

He had many fantastic pictures of unusual wildlife, not only of birds but mammals also as well as various plant life, many of which are indigenous to the island of Madagascar itself. He was a very enthusiastic speaker that kept us enthralled for the evening. Definitely a presentation not to be missed.

~ Steve Pepper

## Meeting Reports ....cont'd

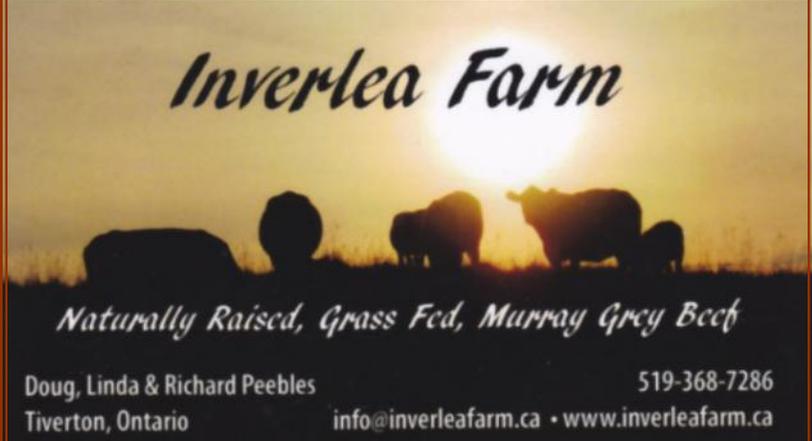
### October 28th Meeting-

Gail and Roger Farrell from Homefront Acres visited with us and gave us an interesting talk on their apple orchard. (We had actually had an Outing to their property in September and were very impressed and Gail and Roger volunteered to give a talk at our October meeting as a follow-up).

Their orchard was established in 1990 with 9 types and now have about 18 different varieties growing. The orchard is thriving in part due to the moderating effects of the lake. To ensure pollination at the appropriate time they rent bee colonies from Guy Anderson of Lazy J Ranch in Kincardine.

Gail and Roger brought samples of their apples to try, along with delicious products that they make and sell at Homefront Acres.

~ Steve Pepper



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### November 25th Meeting-

Karen Alexander from the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation gave us a wide ranging talk on the formation and changes in the Great Lakes from the last ice age about 11,000 years ago to the present.

As well as the geology of the past and present she also touched on ecology and

present day problems not only with regard to the Great Lakes but also the world's oceans. Try Googling [plasticsoupfoundation.org](http://plasticsoupfoundation.org) for a wealth of interesting and eye-opening information. A very informative and entertaining evening.

~ Steve Pepper.

**\* A shipping container carrying millions of pieces of Lego was lost at sea in 1997. The Lego pieces, which include some specialties, are now washing ashore along the UK coast and are becoming collector's items.**



**THE 2014 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**  
**December 17th, 2014**

Member James Turland sent in this excellent write-up which has been published in local media - thanks, James!

Under the heading, ***BIRDERS ASTONISHED AT LOW NUMBERS OF BIRDS***, James states:

The 2014 Kincardine Christmas Bird Count (KCBC) was held on December 17 and many birds were missing. Birds of prey were particularly hard to find, with no Kestrels, Merlins, Harriers or Rough-legged Hawks seen at all. The one Bald Eagle and three Snowy Owls found is average. Feeder birds like Chickadee, Goldfinch and Morning Dove were also unaccounted for. The dozen Mourning Doves seen is less than visit at a single feeder on a good day. One bird to buck the low trend was Raven. Ravens made their first appearance on the KCBC in 2008 as a trio. Ravens historically ranged over most of North America but with the arrival of European Settlers the Ravens retreated to the northern and mountainous regions. Recently they are reclaiming some of their lost territory. For the past 4 years they have nested within the town of Kincardine and can often be seen scavenging the roadside along the highway 21 bypass. Interestingly four known Raven nests in Bruce County are all on man-made structures such as towers, bridges and barns.

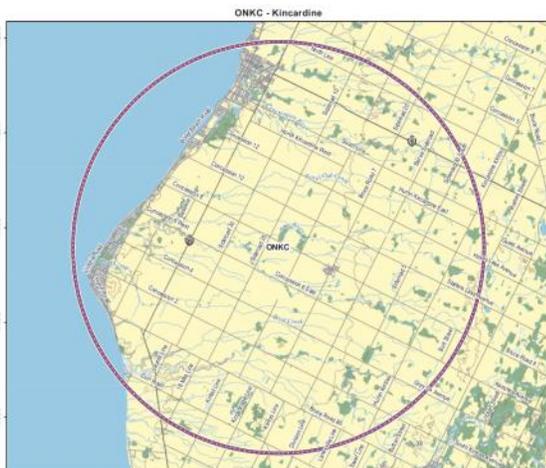
The mild weather leading up to the count had participants hopeful that some lingering summer migrants might be found. Fields were green and all roads passable as compared to many years when snow has been deep and all water frozen. Participant numbers and effort was consistent with other years. So why were so few birds found? The weather is very influential on bird activity. The day started with cold rain that changed to snow midday. Views out over the lake were severely hampered by high waves and winds that drove the cold rain and snow into binoculars and face. The story goes how some participants got so desperate to see a bird they started shaking the trees in the hopes of an encounter.

The 42 species seen is 13 below the recent count average of 55. Even though bird numbers were low spirits remained cheery. Birders tend to be grateful for whatever is offered but often long for more. The less likely a bird is to be seen the more highly it is sought after. In my dreams I believe there must be some hidden Bird Shangri-La right here in Kincardine where the birds can disappear to on such bad weather occasions. I would be most intrigued if anyone finds such a place. If you are interested in finding out more about Christmas bird counts all results of the past 100 years can be accessed on the Audubon web site. For more information on the KCBC, other nearby Christmas Bird Counts and good local places to bird check out Bruce Birding Club Website. <https://sites.google.com/site/brucebirdingclub/> If you live within the count circle and would like the birds in your yard added to the count total, contact James Turland at: [jaturland@gmail.com](mailto:jaturland@gmail.com)

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Kincardine Bird Count area.  
**2014 RESULTS - NEXT PAGE.**



**This Bluebird, seen just before count day, shortly after would have been the first recorded on a KCBC. ~ J. Turland**

## 2014 KINCARDINE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT RESULTS: Complete List of Species

Canada Goose	505	Hairy Woodpecker	2
American Black Duck	7	Northern Shrike	1
Mallard	89	Blue Jay	18
Bufflehead	63	American Crow	222
Common Goldeneye	34	Common Raven	6
Common Merganser	1	Horned Lark	3
Wild Turkey	39	Black-capped Chickadee	297
Great Blue Heron	1	Red-breasted Nuthatch	4
Bald Eagle	1	White-breasted Nuthatch	7
Cooper's Hawk	2	Golden-crowned Kinglet	5
Red-tailed Hawk	3	American Robin	5
Bonaparte's Gull	2	European Starling	1186
Ring-billed Gull	60	Snow Bunting	216
Herring Gull	505	American Tree Sparrow	32
Glaucous Gull	2	Northern Cardinal	24
Great Black-backed Gull	8	House Finch	2
Rock Pigeon	133	Common Redpoll	50
Mourning Dove	12	American Goldfinch	71
Snowy Owl	4	House Sparrow	79
Red-bellied Woodpecker	2		
Downy Woodpecker	7		
		<b>Total # Individuals</b>	<b>3725</b>
		<b>Total # Species</b>	<b>41</b>

### 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!

### UPCOMING OUTINGS:



#### 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. **AND DON'T FORGET THE DIRECTIONS TO THE HIKE!**

#### Saturday, FEBRUARY 14th: EAGLE WATCH

**Meet:** 1:00pm at Sobey's parking lot in Kincardine.

**Contact:** Jim Armstrong 519-396-5856 or James Turland 396-3659

**Details:** Join the group to see Bald Eagles and other birds along the Lake Range Road and the Bai Du Dore lakeshore near the Bruce Power Plant. Each year we see more and more eagles. It's nice to witness their return to our area. Dress for windy conditions up on the viewing tower. Not aware of any washrooms in the immediate area.

Stop by for a cuppa, chat and warm-up at Bean's Bistro afterwards!



#### Wednesday, March 4th or rain/storm date March 5th:

##### EVENING OWL PROWL AND POTLUCK AT THE ARK



**Where:** Janice and Art's Property, The Ark, on the B-line north of Kincardine, at the S-bend. Watch for the sign, 3rd driveway north from Lorne Beach Road. Bring plates, cutlery and a mug with your potluck dish. A far-reaching spotlight-type flashlight is handy for lighting up owls....don't forget your binoculars, so that you can stare back at them!

**When:** Arrive about **4:00 p.m.** for Pot Luck set-up, maybe a short walk followed by supper at 5:00 p.m. By about 6:00 p.m. we should be ready to prowl for owls. Sunset is at 6:17 p.m.



**UPCOMING OUTINGS....**

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

**MARCH: SWAN MIGRATION AT THE LAMBTON MUSEUM** near Grand Bend**Contact:** Jim Armstrong 519-396-5856

**Details:** This is always a great viewing outing, but when, depends on the swans. In early March keep watching the web-site [www.returnoftheswans.com](http://www.returnoftheswans.com) to pick the best viewing day. Based on this web-site, last year many people chose their own day to go. Feel free to do that again. For those who wish to car pool, I'll have a notice sent out when we can pick a good viewing day. We will car pool from the Pine River Church parking lot and the Sun Coast Mall in Goderich. We will tour by car beside the flooded fields of the Thedford Bog south of Grand Bend. There are washrooms at the Lambton Museum. Bring a lunch. There are usually drinks to be purchased in the museum and there is free WIFI; entrance charges apply but the museum is very interesting in and of itself, and there are also outdoor machinery and carriage exhibits. The 2015 fee is \$5 for adults; \$4 for seniors and \$3 for children.

**APRIL - NEWTON RESERVE WORK PARTY? Tentative date**

We hear that new signage is needed at the Newton Reserve, however our last several efforts to get onto the land has been stymied by the weather. We will be looking into getting together a work party and maybe a rain date. If you're interested in joining a work party, please contact Tom Lobb at **482-3342** so that you can be contacted with regards to a date.

Boots and some tools plus a lunch and a good day should get the job done!

**MAY 6th, (TBA) --- KINCARDINE LAGOONS - with the Bruce Birding Club**

The BBC spring schedule hasn't been officially drawn up yet but the hike is almost always the first Wednesday of May and will be at the Kincardine lagoons. Some HFFN birders joined us last year and would be welcome again this year. Details will be posted closer to the date, Wednesday May 6 at the Kincardine lagoons.  
~ James Turland, 396-3659

**MAY -- SPRING WELCOME WALK****Contact: Steve Pepper, 395-5616 - TBA** nearer to the date.

Wear your walking brogues or sneakers for this one - but bring boots, in case. Come and savour the heart-lifting Spring with like-minded friends. Woodland walk on easy paths or boardwalks. We will endeavour to be near washrooms! Bring a picnic lunch if you like. Birding/wildflower/tree ID books and binoculars useful. Maybe we'll find some Skunk Cabbage, like the one at right, to wrinkle our noses over! Skunk Cabbage is a very interesting plant. You can read all about it on the Ontario Wildflowers website. At least that is smell-free!

**2015 ANNUAL BRUCE PENINSULA EXPLORER -****Tues., May 19th - Thurs., May 21st or Fri., May 22nd. Contact: the Peppers, (see pg. 2)**

Our May meeting isn't until the 26th this year which gives us another chance at a longer stay if you like, and leaving the weekend free for the start of the Birding Festival on the 22nd. If you are a 'regular' or a 'second timer' we welcome you again - if you're new to this, you may like to go online and read about our past trips in the fall Newsletters to get an idea. (Website address is on the front of every edition.)




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## UPCOMING OUTINGS....

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE



### BRUCE EXPLORER....

I think we can speak for everyone when we say, Bring along your love of Nature, your curiosity, spirit of adventure, and an umbrella! For more details, add your name to the list at meetings....we will send information via email or phone.....no obligation if you sign the list. Basically....meet at Sobeys in Kincardine for a day's sightseeing trip up the Bruce Peninsula, a stay in Tobermory, the pretty harbour village at 'the tip of the Bruce', and day trips out and around this very special area. Barbecue and potluck at the motel. There is a good grocery store in the harbour. Meals are usually as a group, lunches are often picnics; all activities are optional, as you please. Walking terrain varies, but often easy...we're not all spring chickens! Maps and itineraries are provided, and car pooling/room and cabin sharing can be arranged between participants.

🍃 **International Biodiversity Day will be observed on May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015.** 🍃

### NOT FORGETTING...TENTATIVE DATE, APRIL 30TH:

The **SPRING SAILING** of Tobermory's popular ferry, **M.S. Chi-cheemaun** ('Big Canoe') has not yet been scheduled, but advance tickets are as follows: they are available at the Owen Sound Transportation Company office in Springmount, or call 1-800-265-3163. \$49.75 per person for bus and cruise, \$10.25 for onboard buffet. Make your own arrangements with member friends; arrive at the meeting point early! Bring windproof jackets with hoods.... it's windy out there!



## 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!!

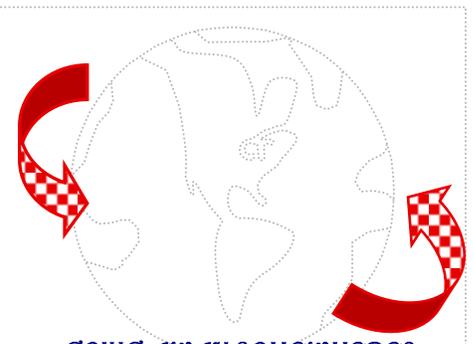
Don't forget the **PHOTO CONTEST** in February! Bring your best, un-retouched Ontario nature shots, 5" X 7", or 4" X 6", to enter for the February Potluck Meeting.

Subject for 2015: **'FALL TREES'**

Take your pictures to be registered at the meeting.

See details under February 24th Meeting write-up.

Good luck!



### GOING AWAY SOMEWHERE?

Wear your new HFFN clothing anywhere in the world, get a photo of yourself in it with a nice background, and send it to the Peppers.... we'll publish it!

### ~ ANNUAL MEETING AND BEEF DINNER ~

Just a reminder that our next AGM is at the LUCKNOW UNITED CHURCH....any leftover tickets may be offered for friends and family of members, so be sure and check after the March meeting if you would like one.

Regretfully, we can give **no refunds on any ticket.**

SEE PHOTOGRAPHS, NEXT PAGE



*KEEP an eye out for the return of our sprightly wee Juncos...they are the harbingers of Spring in the bird world and very welcome.*

# Huron Fringe Birding Festival

May 22 - May 31, 2015



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MacGregor Point Provincial Park • Port Elgin, ON.

## THE HURON FRINGE BIRDING FESTIVAL

The HFBF operates as a volunteer committee of *The Friends of MacGregor Point Park*, a non-profit organization attached to MacGregor Point Provincial Park, and a member agency of Ontario Nature. We are well positioned geographically to hold a birding and nature festival. Our headquarters, MacGregor Point Provincial Park, is located on the Lake Huron shoreline and provides ideal habitat for birds and uncommon wildflowers. We are on the border of southern and northern Ontario and have one of the most diverse habitats in the province. The Bruce Peninsula is rich with flora and fauna and is right at our doorstep. This area is recognized to have the most variety of orchid and butterflies in the province, and has been reported to have the most nesting song bird species in southern Ontario. The Lake Huron shoreline and the Bruce are true gems. For more information, please check our link at <http://friendsofmacgregor.org/page/huron-fringe-birding-festival> - Liz Addison for Fred Jazvac.



B. Fera '14

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Sales Representative  
B.A., M.S. in Ed.

### MEMBERS' PAGE CONT.:

MEMBERS  
BONNIE AND  
GUY FERA  
WERE AT POINT  
PELEE LAST  
YEAR AND  
REMEMBERED  
TO SNAP PICS  
OF THEM-  
SELVES IN  
THEIR HFFN  
HOODIE AND  
SWEATSHIRT.  
WROTE  
BONNIE,  
'...AND IT WAS  
HOT!'



B. Fera '14

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## ~ ~ ~ REGULAR MEETINGS ~ ~ ~

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

Hwy 21 at the 4th Concession of Huron Township

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

**LUG-A-MUG ... BRING YOUR OWN MUG TO THE MEETING!**

**Beverages.....\$1.00 Treats.....free**

FEED THE FROG!



### WINTER WEATHER CAUTION:

BEFORE YOU LEAVE FOR A MEETING, PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT IT IS NOT CANCELLED! WE WILL EMAIL UP TO THE LAST MINUTE....IF NOT ONLINE, PLEASE CALL ANY MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE. THERE MAY BE NOBODY AT THE CHURCH.

**“IF HIGHWAY 21 IS CLOSED....THE MEETING IS CANCELLED.”**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24th, 2015:**

**Member's Meeting: Photo Contest, hobby demo & potluck!**

**Pot Luck Lunch, 12:30 pm.**

Share your favorite dish....wrap it well to keep hot! Please ***bring your own plates, mugs and cutlery*** to simplify cleanup.

**Hobby demo:**

Bring along your nature-oriented collections, found objects, or an example of your hobby. We would love to see these. (Please put your name with your display.)

**Photo Contest: 'FALL TREES'**,

(Unframed, unmounted, 5"x7" or 4"x6")

*Limit, two of each per entrant.*

No 'photoshop' work on the pictures please!

First and second prizes will be awarded in each size.

**PHOTO CONTEST INSTRUCTIONS:**

Please bring your picture(s) to the table, list your name and photo title on the clipboard. Photos will be numbered by the person overseeing the contest. Members will vote by placing a check mark against the numbers on a sheet. ***if you would allow a winning entry to appear in the next issue of this publication, please make it available to the contest staff (or to the Editor - a loan or email). It will be carefully kept and returned to you.***



**PAST WINNING SHOTS:** L: M. Fink, 2012; CTR: J. Armstrong, Boya Lake, 2010; R: G. Holmes, Peggy's Cove, 2014



**TUESDAY, MARCH 24th - Adrienne Mason**

This presentation will cover the work done over the last 14 years by the grass roots watershed restoration group titled the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network in their efforts to restore "clean water and a healthy ecosystem in the Pine River Watershed".

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28th – AGM:****Roast Beef Dinner and Speaker**

**Time:** 7 pm ***at our new venue, Lucknow United Church Hall. (Street parking only)***

**Tickets:** \$20 per diner, available at the March meeting. *Unsold tickets will be available for guests of members at the end of the meeting. We regret no refunds can be given.*

At every AGM, the speaker co-ordinator has made available a special after-dinner speaker for the members. This year is no different.

We are very happy to announce that Steve Irvine from the Warton Area (Georgian Bluffs) will give a one hour presentation that will cover different approaches to nature photography---from macro and pinhole photography to deep space astrophotography and time lapse photography. In order to find out what each method is, you will have to attend our AGM.

Steve is a very special artist. His specialties include pottery and photography. Steve's work in clay and his photography have been published in books and magazines throughout the world. Steve has also received awards from the Ontario Crafts Council, Ontario Clay and Glass Association and the Government of Ontario.

We look forward to Steve's Presentation and look forward to your attendance at this year's AGM.

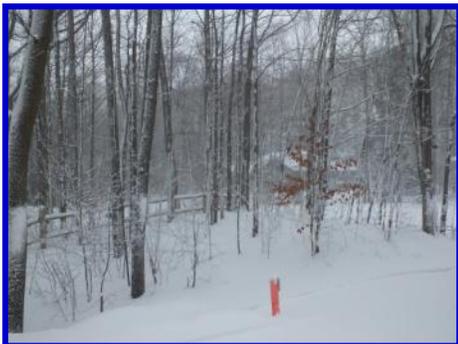
~ Speakers Committee

**TUES., MAY 26th - Marlene Wynnyk**

At this meeting, we will welcome Marlene Wynnyk who will provide a presentation on her Sea Buckthorn orchards near Teeswater. Marlene is knowledgeable and interesting in explaining the importance of Sea Buckthorn (*Hippophae*) for its concentration of vitamin C and the healing qualities these orange berries provide.

**TUES., JUNE 23rd:**

This will be our last meeting until September. It's in the works, and will be announced in the 'Spring into Summer' issue. See you there! ~ Ed.



ONNO VISSER'S RECENT VIEW OF SNOW WITH A BEECH STILL CLINGING TO ITS LEAVES.



BONNIE FERA TOOK THIS CHARMING SHOT OF A BARN SWALLOW LAST YEAR.



BOB TAYLOR CAUGHT THIS GREAT HORNED OWL LOOKING THOUGHTFUL, 2014.

~~ MEMBERSHIPS: ~~

There are still a few members from last year who have not yet paid their dues for our 2014/2015 (September 2014 to September 2015) club year. Hopefully these members intend to retain their membership. Hence it would be appreciated if their payment could now be made by mail (to: Huron Fringe Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 143, Kincardine, Ontario N2Z 2Y6).

The fee structure for 2014/2015 is a straight \$20 per person, with all under 18 years of age being free.

An application form is included in this Newsletter to be sent with payment to advise of any change of contact information. Note also that this form can be used for new members; it is always timely to suggest that anyone you know who is interested in joining send in the form with payment and join us!

If you have any questions about your membership status, or changes to your contact information, please contact Kirk McNaughton at 519-395-5711 or [kirkmcnaughton@hurontel.on.ca](mailto:kirkmcnaughton@hurontel.on.ca).

*Thanks .... Kirk*

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AT 395-5616, OR EMAIL: TREK66@TNT21.COM**



## MEMBERSHIP FORM

NEW MEMBER APPLICATION or  RENEWAL

CURRENT YEAR ... SEPTEMBER 2014 to SEPTEMBER 2015

**Membership Cost:**

\$20.00 per year per person. Youths 18 or less are free.

**Please mail completed form with payment to:**

Huron Fringe Field Naturalists,  
Box 143,  
Kincardine, Ontario N2Z 2Y6

**PLEASE PRINT:**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information:**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_