



Enjoying Nature in Huron-Bruce!



THE HURON FRINGE FIELD NATURALISTS' FRINGE NOTES

FALL into WINTER, 2016... WALKS, MEETINGS & POTLUCKS ~~~~~ FREE FROM OUR SPONSORS THREE TIMES A YEAR

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

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Huron-Naturalists/1654123064825494>



Inside this Issue:

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS.....1- 2
 CONTACT.....2
 PAST MEETINGS.....3
 PAST OUTINGS.....3 - 10
 BUTTERFLY COUNT.....10
 MEMBERSHIP FORM.....12
 MEMBERS' PAGE.....12 - 13
 FALL MEETINGS.....14
 UPCOMING OUTINGS.....15
 FOR YOUR NOTES.....Back page

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. (EXECUTIVE CONTACT NUMBERS & MORE INFO INSIDE.) **except April, Annual Dinner at another venue.



From our PRESIDENT, Gina Dalkin-Davis

By all these lovely tokens September days are here With Summer's best of weather And Autumn's best of cheer.

Helen Hunt Jackson



Greetings,

"Someone is sitting in the shade today, because someone planted a tree a long time ago." Attributed to Warren Buffet; that says it all.

Where did the Summer go? Hot, Hot, Hot. For this naturalist, the only escape from the sizzling heat was the shady canopy of a local wood such as the Newton Reserve or trekking along the Maitland River Trail.

June 18th found our group of naturalists on the Maitland River Trail. Located on the North Side of the Maitland River, walkers enjoyed the opportunity to identify various plants, trees and vegetation on this sunny day. Botanist Brenda Gallagher and Rachel White of the Huron Stewardship group led a very informative hike along steep slopes, flat terrain and ridges along a section of the Maitland River.

Saturday, June 25th was launched with a terrific Bioblitz event at the George G. Newton Reserve. Reptiles, amphibians and types of plants were identified and counted within a short period of time. Our Club co-hosted a gathering of like minded naturalists at the George Newton Reserve. Co-hosts were the Huron Stewardship Council and Ontario Nature who provided a free lunch. Once a farm until donated to Ontario Nature, the Reserve is located not far from Lake Huron. As stewards, HFFN oversees the maintenance of the trail system. Led by expert biologists, novice and knowledgeable naturalists spent a very enjoyable day identifying flora, fauna, reptiles and birds.

UPCOMING EVENTS — PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Full details inside.

MEETINGS:

Sept. 27th: John Van den Broeck, MNR.
 Oct. 25th : Glen Holmes, Birds & their Calls
 Nov. 22: Mitch Twolan, H.K. Mayor, on environmental and other issues (see inside).

OUTINGS:

October 22: Birding along the Lakeshore and a Potluck or Picnic.
 October 12: Fall Colour Walk



Black-eyed Susans sitting pretty at the harbour, Tobermory.

TITLE PHOTO CREDIT: Beach shingle north of the harbour, J. 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 395-3701

Vice-President:

Margie Visser 395-3173

Secretary:

Jackie Clements 396-3655

Treasurer:

Rhodora Doughty 396-4368

Memberships:

Barb Simpson 396-5486

Outings:

Tom Lobb 482-3342

(1 Open position)

Speakers:

Bob Simpson 396-5486

Newsletter Editor:

Jeni Pepper 395-5616

Member-at-Large:

Christine Roberts 395-5008

Social Convenors:

Linda Campbell, 396-5144

Ontario Nature (FON) Rep:

Tom Lobb 482-3342

Website Administrator/Communications:

Steve Pepper 395-5616

Publicity:

Christine Roberts 395-5008

*>>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

PRINTED BY:

Progressive Results Group

336 Lambton St.,

Kincardine, ON

N2Z 2Y2

(519) 396-9250

President's Comments, Cont.:

I can't sign off without saying a word about two of our local endangered species: The Queensnake and the local turtle population. Queensnakes are found along the Maitland river. These shy creatures contribute to Huron County's biodiversity in three ways: as part of the food chain, providing a meal to raptors (Hawks and Eagles) and raccoons; the Queensnake dines on crayfish that inhabit the Maitland River; and, perhaps most importantly, they are an indicator of the Maitland River's health. So, if you love to see the graceful arching of Hawks and Eagles as they circle and swoop over the Maitland or, for that matter, want those hungry Racoons out of your back yard, the best approach is to protect their source of food - the Queensnakes.

The common Snapping Turtle and others are threatened, too. While the danger here may be less than the Queensnakes', Snapping Turtles are usually found near roads and other areas of sandy soil that make excellent nesting sites. Slow and cumbersome in crossing busy highways and roads, this species faces a risky trip crossing over our highways using the same ancient pathways their ancestors trod, long before humans - and roads - were here. What can we do to help turtles survive? Road mortality may be reduced by helping the turtles to cross the roads *when safe to do so*. Another option is to become involved in local community action. Discourage local community activity that is detrimental to animal habitation. That may be the loss of wetlands due to town and city growth; excessive use of chemicals; off-trail ATV use.

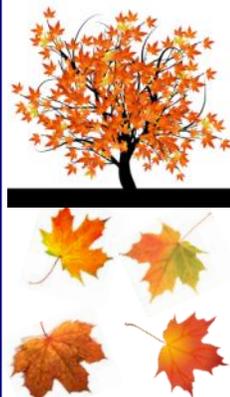
Never remove turtles from their habitats. It is illegal to do so. When helping them across roads, face them in the direction they were going. To learn how to move a snapping turtle, check a knowledgeable online site.

The annual Bruce Peninsula Explorer had a record number of adventurers and great weather....upon which, more inside, and pictures! **Now that September is here**, new opportunities for ventures into Nature present themselves, so be sure to check our 'upcoming outings' inside; details of any later trips will be sent via email.

~~~~~
We regret to note the recent passing of long-time member Don Munn. Sympathy goes out to his wife Joy and their family and many friends. A heartwarming Celebration of Life was held in Point Clark and some HFFN members were amongst those present. A wonderful Memorial to a great guy. Donations were also given for the Alzheimer's Society.
~~~~~

September is our Season of Renewal....Memberships, that is! If you need to renew, or would like to join, there is a form inside to clip, (Pg. 13) or you can see the Memberships person at the September meeting, Christine Roberts who is filling in for regular Memberships lady (Barb) this month. **Please check your membership records to determine whether you need to renew.**

~ Gina D. Davis



Inverlea Farm

Naturally Raised, Grass Fed, Murray Grey Beef

Doug, Linda & Richard Peebles
Tiverton, Ontario

519-368-7286
info@inverleafarm.ca • www.inverleafarm.ca

PAST MEETINGS:

May 24th meeting. Since many of the members were on the Bruce Peninsula trip, there was no speaker. This meeting was an opportunity for eight members to discuss places and things they had seen. All the members attending shared some experiences and it was an interesting and friendly discussion.

Onno Visser shared photos of a fall trip to Manitoulin Island including the salmon run up river, Sandhill Cranes, waterfalls and autumn leaves.

Jim Roberts shared info on upcoming events which were of interest for members and the pamphlet and info for **CoCoRaHS**, a way for citizens to collect data on precipitation. This is explained in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter.
~ *M. Visser*



June 28th: Jim Roberts: Photographing the Night Sky

For the final meeting before the summer break, HFFN member Jim Roberts presented an **Introduction to Backyard Astrophotography**. Jim's talk covered an overview of equipment and explanation of the many processes images undergo before arriving at the crisply detailed, finished product. He concluded with an impressive slide show of some of his best images beginning with our near neighbours in the solar system and moving outward to distant galaxies and nebula. Everyone came away with greater understanding and appreciation of the wonders of the night sky.

~ *Christine Roberts*



PAST OUTINGS

The Annual Bruce Peninsula Explorer: Tuesday, May 24th - Friday, May 27th:

The best-attended trip yet, with 26 people putting their trust in three amazed others. We welcomed several newcomers who have since become members, and who we look forward to seeing again. Thank you to

everyone for helping make the adventure so much more enjoyable!

Leaving the Sobey's Kincardine parking lot at 9 am, we spent an interesting day on our way up to the tip of the Peninsula, taking in **Morland Place Gardens and Victorian Mansion;**



Inglis Falls, where we enjoyed our picnic lunch; **Jones Falls**, and the **Dejong Acres Farm**, run by Brian and Anita Dejong.

Anita had special coffee and some of her home baked fruit scones awaiting us - special coffee unforgettably sweetened with the farm's own maple syrup - enjoyed as we browsed the well-stocked farm store, which was replete with baking, jams, hand dyed yarns, maple products, and other good things. Our visit would not have been complete without a peek at the tiny Spring lambs and their Mamas out in the barns!

Note: Say the Dejongs, 'If you plan to visit, please do not bring along your dog.' The farm dogs, although human friendly, are otherwise very protective!

PAST OUTINGS

BRUCE EXPLORER, CONT.:



Enjoying the view at Inglis Falls



Creative roots, Jones Falls

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!
(This issue: pg. 13)



Leaving **Dejong's**, we managed to get to **Bruce's Caves** in time for a pleasant walk. After this, our rumbling tums dictated a straight run to Tobermory, our motels, and the delicious supper awaiting us at the Princess Hotel overlooking Little Tub Harbour. After our meal, some had a meander in the vicinity of Little Tub. It was noted at the Diver's Deck that the lake level was still quite a bit higher than previous years, having risen since 2013.

Day Two, Wednesday, saw us emerging to sun and breeze, and after breakfast we were able to proceed with plans for the day. The morning's venture was to be all-time favourite **Singing Sands**, a lunch at the picnic area at **Cypress Lake Park**, and then a choice between a walk on the Horse Lake Trail or a rather rugged afternoon hike out to the **Grotto**. Your Editor elected to remain in camp with a limping canine, and so was later somewhat disappointed to have missed the sighting that had everyone returning from the hikes in a state of excitement and (in very few cases) a little discomfiture. It seems that a local denizen, *Sistrurus catenatus*, was



(all photos this page: J. Pepper)



attempting to have himself a quiet sunbathe along the warm boardwalk when he was suddenly alarmed to find himself in the close vicinity of some fifty-six human feet, which then surrounded him and wouldn't go away again, despite his best attempt at being what he was, and rattling at them. He tried moving, ducking under the boardwalk and coming up elsewhere, but couldn't seem to shake them. He finally gave up and disgruntled, left the area. Little did he realise that some of our group wanted just to get by him!

Leaving Singing Sands, a group of Sandhill Cranes made a good sighting as well. Ralph and Mary Ann Knowles thoughtfully kept a listing of all the birds seen on the entire trip; this list will follow the present report. Thanks, guys!

After the day's exercise, everyone looked forward to having a little relaxation and a good feed, so without more ado, preparations were made, and a great barbecue and potluck put us out of action for awhile! Such a large group was hard put to keep the circle of chairs contained to the small parking area outside Cabin 10, and a few people were probably sitting quite close to the quiet laneway! But....the burgers were huge, the dishes many.... Thanks to our cooks and pot-luckers! Steve thanked all for coming along on this year's trip and admitted to being a little disappointed....it hadn't rained as expected.

Day Three: Thursday: We knew we would be waving some of our friends off home. Steve had spoken too soon; there was some rain overnight and into the morning, but it freshened everything up ready for the sun to come out, which it did; so off we went to Halfway Log Dump. Quite the drive, as the gravel road had not yet been graded. Some trick driving was required and the word 'Ooops!' was probably overused as the vehicle wheels found plenty of dips and potholes.

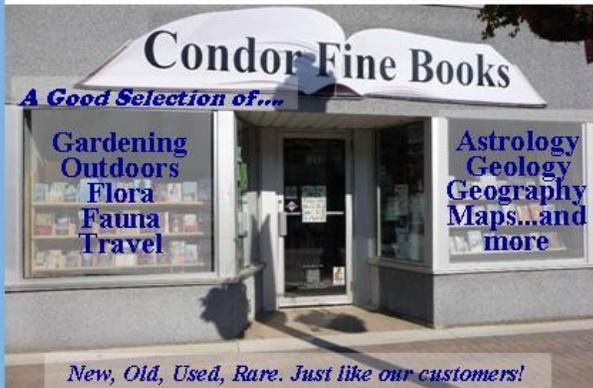
The Chimney Sweep's Stove Parlour & Fireplace Gallery

WETT Certified
Chimney Cleaning
Fireplace & Stove Installation & Maintenance
Gas, Propane, Pellet, & Wood

519-368-5274 1-800-822-6487

www.stoveparlour.com | info@stoveparlour.com
#3006 Bruce County Road 15, Tiverton, Ontario
2km west of Tiverton

REDUCE ~ REUSE ~ RECYCLE



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

Hours:
10 - 5 incl. stat. hols; 10 - 9 Sat.
Sept-Jun: 10 - 5 daily, 11 - 4 Sun.

PHONE: 519-396-3323
EMAIL: www.condorfinebooks.com



The Ark Farm

Vegetables & Native Plants



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

PAST OUTINGS...

Bruce Explorer Cont.



The weather proved perfect for a great hike out to **Halfway Log Dump** and once at the shore a great time was had with people scrambling on the rocks, testing the clear water that lapped the shore, or climbing the little cliff. Art and Murray had a long chat sitting cross legged facing each other on the cliff top. We were loath to leave, but eventually had to make tracks.

We felt we had done a lot of walking and that we deserved some fitting treat, so that evening's meal was a great pizza at the Crow's Nest....and how!

Day Four: Friday, saw us bidding goodbye to everyone but friend Susan and Gord Brocklebank, who joined us for a walk out to a misty, sparkling **Little Dunk's Bay**, where some exploring was done by the more enthusiastic young members; Gord left us back at the Visitor Centre parking lot, while the two aforementioned enthusiastic folks 'popped' up the Viewing Tower where they watched the Chi-Cheemaun coming in. A walk around the **Visitor Centre** and a chat with the staff there, and we were ready to return to camp. The four of us and Quinn, whose limp improved 100% during his stay, had until Sunday in our cabin before making the drive home. We thank every one of you for helping make that trip what it was. Can't do it without you, and as a matter of fact, despite our larger number this year - those who were away elsewhere this time around, we did miss you!



Afternote: During our stay, several people noticed and admired a large Pasque Flower growing in the garden at Peacock Villa. Donna mentioned that these plants had been available at Solway's Farm Market just north of Wiarton. Those leaving over the next few days must surely have gone there to enquire; as on Sunday when we stopped in to buy sausage rolls for lunch, Donna also enquired about Pasque Flowers, whereupon the lady who was serving her asked, "Are you one of this group from Kincardine?"

~ Ed.



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





320 Durham Market Square S
Kincardine, Ontario N2Z 2A2
www.petvalu.com
www.performatrinutra.com

Tel./Fax: (519) 396-9135
Store Hours: Mon-Thu 9-7, Fri 9-9
Sat 9-6, Sun 10-6

KINCARDINE
320 Durham Market St. S
519-396-9135



- Wide variety of pet foods
- Cat litters, pans & scoops
- Dog crates & cat carriers
- Leads, collars and tieouts
- Treats & toys
- Wild bird seeds & feeders
- Grooming tools & products
- Small Animal, Bird & Fish care
- Flea & tick products

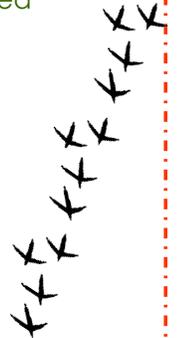
PAST OUTINGS...

BIRD LIST FROM THE EXPLORER

Here is a partial list of birds I saw or heard during the trip. I did not include common ones, but the more interesting ones you can find during migration.

~ *Ralph Knowles*

Brewers Blackbird	Black-throated Green Warbler
Raven	Palm Warbler
Great-crested Flycatcher	Common Yellow-throated Warbler
White-throated Sparrow	Scarlet Tanager
Common Tern	Indigo Bunting
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Catbird
Black and White Warbler	Red-eyed Vireo
Yellow Warbler	Northern Oriole
American Redstart	Red-tailed Hawk
Ovenbird	Savannah Sparrow
Mourning Thrush	Song Sparrow
Blackburnian Warbler	



Huron Fringe Birding Festival, May 27th – 30th:

The wooded shoreline of Lake Huron is an important corridor for many species of beautiful migratory birds, and we are fortunate to have the opportunity to see them, with expert guidance, each Spring as they travel North, at the Huron Fringe Birding Festival.

The 19th festival was held this year from May 27th to 30th and June 2nd to 5th. at the MacGregor Point Provincial park. The Festival Committee works in partnership with the park staff, Ontario Parks and The Friends of Macgregor Point. This year, Nora Toth and Doug Pedwell were co-chairs. It was, as always, a highly successful and enjoyable event, with something of interest not only for bird enthusiasts, but all other nature lovers as well. 175 species of birds were sighted and recorded. This year attendance grew 19% over 2015, with a 41% growth in new attendees. For the second time, a family weekend was offered, and was a great success, with 72 registrants. Therefore it is planned that this will continue in 2017.

At the Festival Banquet, held on Saturday, May 28th, our own HFFN member, James Turland, was recognized and honoured for his longtime commitment to the festival as a leader and supporter.

This year a butterfly garden, designed to serve as a monarch way station, was created near the Visitors' Centre at MacGregor Point Park, and dedicated to the memory of Mary Rapati, who presented butterfly workshops at the festival for several years. A workshop on Monarch butterflies was also offered during the festival this year, and participants learned how to create their own butterfly-friendly space.

The 20th festival will be held May 26th to 29th, and June 1st to 4th 2017. Mark your calendars, and plan to attend. It is an excellent chance to learn about, appreciate and enjoy the wonderful natural environment we are privileged to live in.

~ *Jackie Clements*

NCC's new Riverbend Property between Benmiller and Salford, Saturday June 18th.

(Joint outing with Lower Maitland Stewardship Group)

A good number of members turned out to meet Rachel White, M.Sc., Stewardship Coordinator, County of Huron, and biologist Brenda Gallagher, a wetland plant ecologist, who drove up from London to lead us on a tour of the recently acquired Riverbend Property near Goderich's 'Black Hole', on one of the hottest days of the summer.

We walked about four kilometers in total, and fortunately a lot of it was in the shade! Brenda exhibited an amazing knowledge, not only of the plants that we located, but also how many of them could be used medicinally.

After our walk, we headed into Goderich for lunch at a local restaurant before heading for home.

Member Jack Campbell was there with his camera - see next page!

~ *Steve Pepper*




KINCARDINE COUNTRY DEPOT

JIM HAMILTON
OWNER

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



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

PAST OUTINGS:**Riverbend Property.... Photographs by Jack Campbell.****LEFT:**

This would appear to be a male Chalk-fronted Corporal (*Ladona Julia*) family *Libellulidae* (Skimmers).

LOWER LEFT:

Tickseed (*Coreopsis*). A plant known both in the wild and in gardens.

**NEAR LEFT:**

A Toad by any other name.... Probably an American Toad...*Bufo Americanus*.

Corrections for any of the above welcome!

Thanks to Jack for great images. ~ Ed.

G.G. NEWTON RESERVE BIOBLITZ, SATURDAY JUNE 25TH:

A BioBlitz is an event where participants identify as many species as possible within a short period of time. It's a great opportunity for novice naturalists and people interested in the local flora and fauna to have a hands-on learning experience! You can team up with one of our expert biologists who specialize in identifying reptiles, amphibians, plants and birds.

Perched upon the rolling Wyoming Moraine and not far inland from Lake Huron, this reserve was a farm until it was donated to Ontario Nature. The trail system through the reserve passes through a forested ravine and old farm fields – offering a compelling example of ecological farmland restoration.

Huron Fringe Naturalists have been maintaining the Newton Reserve since the 1980's. We developed the trail system, and were involved in a series of plantings in the pine trees, around the pond, and in a wet meadow. We try to do a cleanup of the property and trail maintenance once in spring and again in the fall. We were there in mid-April this year and completely cleared the trails, including chainsaw work to remove all fallen trees across the trails. There are many standing dead pines near the trails, but it was deemed too risky to drop them, so

we will leave that to Mother Nature and deal with them when they fall. These trees pose no risk for hikers, unless they are walking on an **extremely** windy day.

A group of hikers who are part of the Maitland Trail Association use the Newton Reserve trails several times a year. They also help with maintenance when there, including replacing deteriorating signs. The trail system consists of the White Pine Loop and the White Cedar side trail which dead ends at the creek. This group has recently roughed-out a continuation of this trail up the creek valley and looping back to White Pine. This is a very nice area to walk, and something HFFN started to do several years ago but didn't complete. Efforts to get a group for maintenance onto the area in the past year or two have been foiled by weather, despite having rain dates, so it was a relief to be able to get onto the land this past April.

The bioblitz went very well! We had about 35 participants, and saw lots of beautiful plants and creatures.

Here are the results:

Butterflies - 14 species and 41 individuals
Frogs and Toads - 3 species and 11 individuals
Salamanders - 1 species and 9 individuals
Birds - 10 species Trees - 20 species

Wildflowers, Vines and Shrubs - 50 species
We ID-ed a total of 98 species.

I have attached some photos of the day.
Cheers, Rachel White

G. G. NEWTON Bioblitz, continued...

Photos: Rachel White - R.W.
Shane Hesch - S.H.



R.W.



Smera Sukumar and Damien Mullin

R.W.



R.W.

**Note:**

Ontario Nature has a report of this event online. If you look closely you will see HFFN members!

**Provincial Parks Day, July 15th - Our enthusiastic members had this to report:****Margie and Onno Visser:**

"Healthy Parks, Healthy People" was the slogan for Ontario provincial parks on July 15. There was free admission on this day for all provincial parks. Many of the parks had special activities to encourage people to come and enjoy the outdoors.

On July 15th, the weather had changed overnight from the hot weather we had been having to windy and cool, almost cold, in the morning.



However, Onno and I went to Sauble Falls Provincial Park where we walked through the campground which brought back memories of camping there with our kids when they were young. Onno had also camped there with his family when he was about twelve years old and found the camp site where they had camped.

The Sauble Falls were beautiful as always with lots of water rushing over the rocks and people wading through the waves.

We took a side trip to Wiarton and

Bruce's Caves before heading home. On the way home we stopped at Inverhuron Provincial Park which we had not visited before. The park was a great way to experience nature and the beach looked beautiful.

I hope the Provincial Parks have this special free admission day next year. However, even if we need to pay, our parks are a special resource we must appreciate and keep for they provide natural opportunities to all Ontarians.

~ Margie Visser



Provincial Parks Day....

Jackie Clements has this to say:

On Friday July 15th free day use was offered at all Ontario Provincial Parks. MacGregor Point Provincial Park participated, offering several events throughout the day, and 140 people took advantage of the opportunity. There was an all-day scavenger hunt and a 9am. aerobics class. At 10am. a bike hike took place along the old Shore Road Trail, with several informative stops. At 2pm. there was a survival challenge, which included both a physical obstacle course and mind puzzles. At 4pm. there was yoga on the beach, and at 8pm. a Sunset Nature Walk, which ended at Sunset Point for the 9.08pm. sunset. This walk was the only event which I personally attended. The day had been cloudy, dull and windy, with some rain at times. The evening was still cloudy, but pleasant, and quite windy, resulting in some beautiful lake views with gorgeous, choppy water. It was really exhilarating to walk the shoreline, and not hard to imagine conditions resulting in a shipwreck off Sunset Point. The sunset itself was somewhat muted by the weather.

2016 was the second year this event has taken place. The objective is to encourage more people to enjoy healthy, outdoor activities and to appreciate the beautiful natural environment. It is going to become an annual event. **Plan to visit a Provincial Park on the third Friday of July in 2017.** ~ Jackie Clements

West Perth Wetlands in Mitchell Wednesday, August 17th:

BBC Outing, August 17, 2016

Trip Leader: Eric Jeffery.

Participants: Eric Jeffery, Steve Thorpe, Fred Jazvac, James Turland, Ralph and Mary Anne Knowles, Stewart Nutt, Nancy White, Alfred Raab, Bruce Edmunds, John and Kay Thompson, Judy Wyatt, Lionel Gould, Bob and Anne Marie Taylor, Anne Melady, Bill Klein, Kirsten and Grace Dyer, Joan Godden, Tom Lobb, Gord Brocklebank, Harold Schultz (23)

Hi Everyone,

We owe a big thank you to a lot of people today. Eric and Steve did a great job of leading us today at the Mitchell lagoons, showing us the way to many great shorebirds. This was followed by the wonderful hospitality of Anne Melady who opened her house and providing us with coffee, tea and treats. The four people in our car chuckled as we asked, How many butter tarts did you eat? Apparently, with a little bit of guilt, we humorously admitted to two each. Anne, they were really good! Mary-Ann, thank you for looking after our species list today.

In the shorebird department, we found 12 species of birds including a Baird's Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher and Black-bellied Plover. The Plover and Baird's was our first of the year. By the end of the day we had 53 species of birds. An excellent total for this time of the year and considering we were focusing on shorebirds. The temperature ranged between 21 and 27. The wind was about 20 K and helped with our comfort. Rain came at the end of our day as we travelled home.

Places visited: 1) En Route 2) West Perth Wetlands 3) Exeter Sewage Lagoons

- Canada Goose (CANG)
- Wood Duck (WODU) -2
- Gadwall (GADW) -3
- American Black Duck (ABDU) -2,3
- Mallard (MALL)
- Northern Shoveler (NOSH) -3
- Green-winged Teal (GWTE) -2
- Redhead (REDH) -3
- Hooded Merganser (HOME) -3
- Ruddy Duck (RUDU) -3
- Pied-billed Grebe (PBGR) -2,3
- Double-crested Cormorant (DCCO) -3
- Great Blue Heron (GBHE) 1,2 3
- Great Egret (GREG) -3
- Green Heron (GRHE) -2
- Turkey Vulture (TUVU)
- Bald Eagle (BAEA) -3
- Northern Harrier (NOHA) -1

- Red-tailed Hawk (RTHA) -1
- Black-bellied Plover (BBPL) -3
- Semipalmated Plover (SEPL) -2
- Killdeer (KILL) -2,3
- Spotted Sandpiper (SPSA) 1,2,3
- Solitary Sandpiper (SOSA) -2
- Greater Yellowlegs (GRYE) 2,3
- Lesser Yellowlegs (LEYE) -2,3
- Baird's Sandpiper (BASA) -2
- Least Sandpiper (LESA) -2,3
- Pectoral Sandpiper (PESA) -2,3
- Semipalmated Sandpiper (SESA) -2,3
- Short-billed Dowitcher (SBDO) -3
- Ring-billed Gull (RBGU)
- Mourning Dove (MODO)
- Chimney Swift (CHSW) -2
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird (RTHU) -1
- American Kestrel (AMKE) -2
- Great Crested Flycatcher (GCFL) -2

- Eastern Kingbird (EAKI) - 1,2
- Blue Jay (BLJA) -1
- American Crow (AMCR)
- Tree Swallow (TRES) 1,2
- N Rough-winged Swallow (NRWS) -2
- Bank Swallow (BANS) -2
- Cliff Swallow (CLSW) -2
- Barn Swallow (BARS) - 1,2, 3
- American Robin (AMRO)
- European Starling (EUST)
- Vesper Sparrow (VESP) -3
- Northern Cardinal (NOCA) -1
- Common Grackle (COGR) -1
- Brown-headed Cowbird (BHCO) -3
- Baltimore Oriole (BAOR) -1
- American Goldfinch (AMGO) -2
- House Sparrow (HOSP) -1

53 species - any errors or omissions, please contact sender

~ Fred Jazvac

HFFN ANNUAL CORN ROAST/POTLUCK, Sept. 10th:



The day started out under weather warnings for high winds, heavy rains and thunderstorms with 'the odd tornado not ruled out', and we weren't disappointed as we got all of the above (but a tornado) in spades. Those of us who left from Pine River Church parking lot did so in windy conditions and with views of nearby fields with rain sheeting across them.

However, we persevered and by 1:45 most of the bad weather had left the area and the 26 members that arrived at the Zinn property for the event managed to get a pleasant walk in through the bush and down to the pond in good weather. Lights glowed softly in the cabin, a loaded table awaited, along with a smaller table packed with

desserts; Tom got the corn on, and with some hot dogs from the BBQ and the tables overflowing with dishes, we all tucked into another great potluck meal with some having had the optimistic foresight to bring along lawn chairs to enjoy the feast out of doors.

Paul did a great job hosting the event as Lynn was successfully taking a course for the day.

We didn't let a bit of rough weather get in our way and as a matter of fact this was probably one of our biggest gatherings for this annual outing.

Thanks very much again to Paul and Lynn for inviting us to their property for this event. *~ Steve Pepper*



BUTTERFLY COUNT RESULTS:

Though this year's count numbers were down, it is important to note that the weather was not ideal for butterfly viewing and yet the group was still able to record 36 species of butterfly.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| European Skipper: 146 | Northern Pearly Eye: 27 | Grey Comma: 1 |
| Cabbage White: 244 | Aphrodite Fritillary: 2 | Appalachian Brown: 16 |
| Northern Crescent: 154 | Mourning Cloak: 3 | Eastern Tailed Blue: 12 |
| Clouded Sulfur: 194 | Viceroy: 2 | Delaware Skipper: 1 |
| Great Spangled Fritillary: 15 | Baltimore Checkerspot: 16 | Mulberry Wing: 1 |
| Monarch: 4 | Long Dash Skipper: 5 | Dorcas Copper: 1 |
| Red Admiral: 1 | Northern Broken Dash: 5 | Common Ringlet: 1 |
| Common Wood Nymph: 71 | Red-Spotted Purple: 2 | Pearl Crescent: 13 |
| Eyed Brown: 40 | Dun Skipper: 2 | Hobomok: 5 |
| Summer Azure: 2 | Tawny Edged Skipper: 11 | Coral Hairstreak: 2 |
| Little Wood Satyr: 21 | Bronze Copper: 14 | Eastern Comma: 1 |
| White Admiral: 5 | Acadian Hairstreak: 1 | Black Swallowtail: 2 |

The 2017 MacGregor Point NABA butterfly count will be held on Saturday, July 8th. Hope to see you there!

~ Kathleen H. Chayer

Park Interpreter - RTI
Natural Heritage Education
MacGregor Point Provincial Park



Photos: B. Taylor, Spring Azure
J. Pepper, Tiger Swallowtail

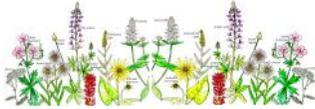


WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!



**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 YOUR-
SELF KNOWN TO US SO THAT WE CAN DRAW YOU INTO
OUR MIDST AND GET TO KNOW YOU!**



September membership renewals are with us....

MEMBERSHIP CO-ORDINATOR:

Barb Simpson, 396-5486.

Membership/renewal forms are included in this issue, or catch up with Barb at one of the Fall meetings.

As always, we encourage members to lend us their help and ideas - you can always approach the Executive with your thoughts, and we look forward to seeing new Executive Members, or Members-at-large. New members have the support and help of all the Executive. Executive terms run two years, or longer if you like....we hold two or three meetings per year. No great shakes!



Citizen Science: Get Involved!

If you participate in the Christmas bird count, the NABA butterfly count or have attended a bio blitz; congratulations, you're a citizen scientist! The term *citizen science* refers to the collection and analysis of data relating to the natural world by volunteers in the general public typically as part of a project with professional scientists. You don't need extensive scientific education, just an interest in nature. Whatever your interest; birds, reptiles and amphibians, fish, astronomy, butterflies - there's a Citizen Science Project for you! Check online for opportunities in your field of interest, or start with the Ontario Nature directory, www.ontarionature.org/directory-of-citizen-science/home.php. This Ontario Parks blog also includes links to several citizen science programs: <http://www.ontarioparks.com/parksblog/the-joy-of-citizen-science-see-it-save-it-send-it/>.

If you start each day observing the weather and let's face it, everyone in Canada is obsessed with weather; you might consider joining CoCoRaHS (Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network), a volunteer group working to measure and map precipitation in North America: www.cocorahs.org.

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!

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. If in doubt....suss it out! Remember to bring a map or directions with you.



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, car charger, 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!



Members' Page.... What Our Members are Doing!

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

**Guests welcome!*



Jim Roberts kindly volunteered to escort this large Snapping Turtle further toward where she was headed...in Nova Scotia. Good show, Jim!
(Got all your fingers?!)

Rhodora and Art ventured to Alaska where, as Rhodora wrote, 'Over 30 here but only 5 on the glacier trip! Had my HFFN sweatshirt on under jacket but too cold and windy to take it off!

Fantastic trip so far. Mt Denali or (previously) Mt McKinley is gorgeous.'



~~~~~

**In the meantime, Bob and Barb Simpson** had a look around Ontario, along with the Batemans....



Turtle, Shawanaga River near Pointe Au Baril



▲ **Bob was so impressed** by the colour of this fungi that he suggested we have a fungi-themed photo contest....  
(Sounds like fun, guy!!)



**Finally, last but certainly not least:** this Pointe Au Baril bear, spotted by Brenda Bateman, swimming from an island to the mainland, and caught by Bob's lens. Obviously one subject you don't want to get too close to!

## GOING AWAY SOMEWHERE!



Wear your 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!



# Members' Page....

...Continued



**2017 PHOTO CONTEST!**

Our challenge NEXT FEBRUARY:

**'Rocks and Ridges'**

2 prints each, 4" x 6" OR 5" x 7"

Canadian content, unretouched.




**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

new member application or  renewal

SEPTEMBER 2017 to SEPTEMBER 2018

....or CATCHUP?

**Membership Cost:** \$20.00 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 No: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Please tell us....where did you hear of our group?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you!*

Your Editor was recently treated to a day out in Tobermory, courtesy of her daughter Donna Murray. While enjoying the lovely sunny day (and playing musical chairs with parking) they took a stroll along the harbour boardwalk where this lovely White Admiral enchanted its admirers with some fifteen minutes of wonder.



**~~ MEMBERSHIPS: ~~**

The fee structure for 2017/2018 is a straight \$20 per person, with all under 18 years of age being free.

An application form is included at left to accompany payment and 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!

There are still a few members from last year who have not yet paid their dues for our 2015/2016 (September 2015 to September 2016) club year. Hopefully these members intend to retain their membership. Hence it would be appreciated if their payment could now be made (see form at left).

If you have any questions about your membership, or changes to your contact information, please contact Barb Simpson at 396-5486

or: bsimpsonbob@gmail.com

*Thanks .... Barb*

**ADVERTISING:**  
\$30 ANNUALLY, CONTACT EDITOR  
AT 395-5616, OR EMAIL:  
TREK66@TNT21.COM

## ~ ~ ~ REGULAR MEETINGS ~ ~ ~

*Regular meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Pine River United Church on Hwy 21 , during the months of February to June and September to November.*

*February meeting is a potluck and photo contest/hobby display at 12:30 pm;*

*April meeting is our Annual General Meeting, held at the Lucknow United Church, 7pm.*

*Meetings are cancelled in event of bad weather - you are advised to check the status of a meeting before leaving home.*

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

Social Time: 7. 30 pm.

**FEED THE FROG!**

Meeting: 8:00 pm.



Beverages: 1.00; treats: free.

#### 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, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>: John Van den Broeck



John is a Management Biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry from Northwestern Ontario (Manitoba-Minnesota border area). He will be providing a presentation on topics of resource management and biodiversity for his area of responsibility.

Participants will be surprised to hear about similarities and stark contrasts between this area and Southern Ontario as a result of a sharp eco-regional transition from the adjacent prairie influences to boreal forest; leading to among the highest bio-diverse geographies in the north.

A landscape with typical boreal species, moose, bear, wolves, but also rare prairie mammals, American badger, grey fox, and Franklin ground squirrels.

John will start at glacial retreat, reconstruct the landscape and conclude with the unique species assemblages that resulted. The presentation will be spiced with examples of outdoor recreation activities, possibly perceived as adventurous, that may help to explain the passion for the area described.



#### Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> : Glen Holmes

Long-time HFFN Member Glen Holmes will give a presentation on birds and their calls. There are some bird calls that most of us know and some that few of us know. Glen plans to have audio and photos that pair up. You won't want to miss this special presentation from one of our own members.



#### Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> : Mitch Twolan



**Mitch Twolan, Mayor of Huron-Kinloss** will be the speaker. Mitch is a Director and former Chair of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative which includes mayors from cities in both Canada and the United States. He attended the climate summit in Paris last year and is the warden of Bruce County. From all his experiences, Mitch has good insights and experiences to share on environmental issues.

**Note that after the November meeting, we will reconvene in February for the Potluck/Photo Contest. See you there!**

## UPCOMING OUTINGS:



### Wednesday, October 12th: Behind Goderich Cemetery

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!**



**Meet:** At 1:30 p.m. at the Cemetery entrance.  
**Details:** Join us for a walk through the trails and reforested areas between the cemetery and the Maitland River valley. This area was flattened by the tornado and has had a lot of recovery work done. Time permitting, we will also check out the spectacular Colborne Riverside Park. There should be some fall colour on this trip as well.



**Leader: Tom Lobb** 519-482-3342

**Directions:** The cemetery is on highway 8 just east of Goderich. **Washrooms at Tim's near the mall. Perhaps gather for a drink and chat there before we head for home.**



### Saturday, October 22nd:

**ANNUAL BEACH BIRDING WALK, Nature Hike  
- and/or potluck lunch afterwards.**

**Contact: James Turland- 396-3659  
or Steve Pepper: 395-5616**

This year we have been invited to have the Potluck portion at Bob and Barb Simpson's home.

**Meet at the Sobeys' Parking area at 8:30 a.m.** (some people are early birders!) James Turland will lead us on an outing to look for migrating waterfowl out on the lake from different points along the nearby shore and maybe walk one of the Kincardine Nature Trails.

Bring binoculars or spotting scope, notebook, warm windproof clothing (it has rained/ snowed at this event!) some candies or a flask of hot beverage....we will drop off your casserole or treats at Bob and Barb Simpson's on Cty Rd 23, the B-Line, for our potluck lunch. We will go in a convoy for lunch. Washrooms may or may not be available in places. **If you don't wish to do the birding - bring a casserole or sweet along and meet us about 11 am at the Simpson's. Hope to see you there!**

**Further details will be sent with the email reminder.**

### *YOUR HFFN EXECUTIVE, JULY 2016 LUNCH/ MEETING,*

#### *BEAN'S BISTRO, KINCARDINE:*

*From left: Jackie Clements, Secretary; Margie Visser, Vice President; Jeni Pepper, Newsletter Editor; Bob Simpson, Speaker Co-Ordinator; Barb Simpson, Memberships; Christine Roberts, Member-at-Large, Publicity; Gina Daskin Davis, President.*

*Absent: Tom Lobb, Outings;*

*Rhodora Doughty, Treasurer;*

*Marion Fink, Past President; Linda Campbell, Refreshments Co-Ordinator.*

*Photo: Steve Pepper, Notifications.*

### PAST ISSUES OF FRINGE

#### NOTES:

**IF FOR WHATEVER REASON YOU WOULD LIKE TO ACCESS THESE, THEY ARE HELD ONLINE ON OUR WEB PAGE, WHICH IS PART OF THE HURON STEWARDSHIP WEBSITE. HOWEVER, ONCE ON THE HFFN PAGE YOU WILL NEED TO USE THE LINK AT THE TOP TO GET THE RECENT ISSUES. THERE IS ANOTHER LINK TO THE RIGHT, HOWEVER IT GIVES ACCESS ONLY TO OLDER ISSUES AND NOT TO THE LATER ONES. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME ISSUES WITH THE WEB PAGE OF LATE, BUT EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE...**

**WE APOLOGISE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE!**

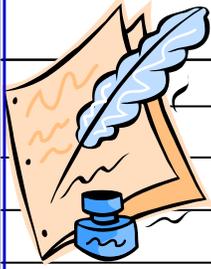


### **HELP WANTED:**

PLEASANT, WILLING INDIVIDUAL (OR TWO) TO ASSIST SEVERAL OTHERS SAME; SOME NOTES TO TAKE, SOME PHONE CALLS TO MAKE, THREE BUSINESS LUNCHES PER YEAR; PAID IN GRATEFUL THANKS FROM SAID SEVERAL PLEASANT INDIVIDUALS AFOREMENTIONED WITH ADDED BONUS OF NEW FRIENDS AND SOME INTERESTING LOCAL AREA INFORMATION.  
APPLY ANYTIME: STEVE PEPPER, 395-5616, TREK66@TNT21.COM



~~ Please bring any Mistakes to the Attention of the PROOFREADER. ~~



*For Your Notes.....*

A large rectangular area with a blue border, containing 25 horizontal lines for writing notes.