



PECFN NEWSLETTER

March 2016



spring beauty *photo by Terry Sprague*



Blandings turtle *photo by Ian Dickinson*

Why not enjoy nature more? Join a PECFN spring outing



photo by D. Bree

President's message Myrna Wood

Everyone is asking 'What is going on'? The last month has been a roller-coastal ride for the County.



- The APPEC/Hirsch appeal of the White Pines project won a ruling that it would cause irreversible harm to two vulnerable species, Blanding's turtle and Little brown bat through habitat destruction on sites and along municipal roads.
- Notwithstanding, Wpd announced that it would start vegetation removal March 19 and the Tribunal denied a Stay on construction work.
- Wpd has presented a Road Users Agreement to Council that would, in effect, take control of the seasonal municipal roads that concerns the Tribunal. It would allow them to rebuild these roads to heavy truck conditions, widen road allowances where needed, and take over maintenance. Given the evidence on Blanding's turtle travel through the area we can confidently predict these roads and subsequent vehicle traffic would cause the extirpation of the species on the South Shore.
- County staff and its solicitors argue that the municipality could lose control over the project, as it affects its roads and rights of way, if it doesn't make this agreement with the developer. They worry the MOECC will simply give the developer the go-ahead and the municipality will be a bystander as its roads and lands are fundamentally altered. Well yes, that is exactly what the agreement will do if accepted as is!
- Wpd also presented a Community Benefits Agreement to pay the County amounts prorated on the numbers of turbines operating as well as the profits being made from future FIT payments from the Province. ***They withdrew this proposed agreement hours before it was to be discussed by Council.***



- The Committee of the Whole meeting on these agreements has been postponed until Thursday, March 31 at 1 pm. ***Everyone who is available should attend to support our Mayor and Councillors who want to postpone these Provincially enforced agreements until all appeals of the project are finished.***

PECFN speaker Sue Banks
March 29 Bloomfield town hall 7pm



Some beautiful and valuable plants blossom every spring in the County's woods. Sue will tell us what we should be looking for, and where, and also about the medicinal and other uses of these flowers. An educator for much of her working life, she is also a keen gardener, naturalist and amateur photographer, a member of and volunteer for the North American Native Plant Society, and a designer and creator of native plant gardens.

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY FIELD NATURALISTS
PRESENT

SUE BANKS

A MEMBER OF THE North American Native Plant Society
Who will talk about

Spring Woodland Flowers of PE County
LEARN ABOUT PLANTS GOOD FOR EATING
AND MEDICINAL USES



BLOOMFIELD TOWN HALL MARCH 29 7pm
EVERYONE WELCOME

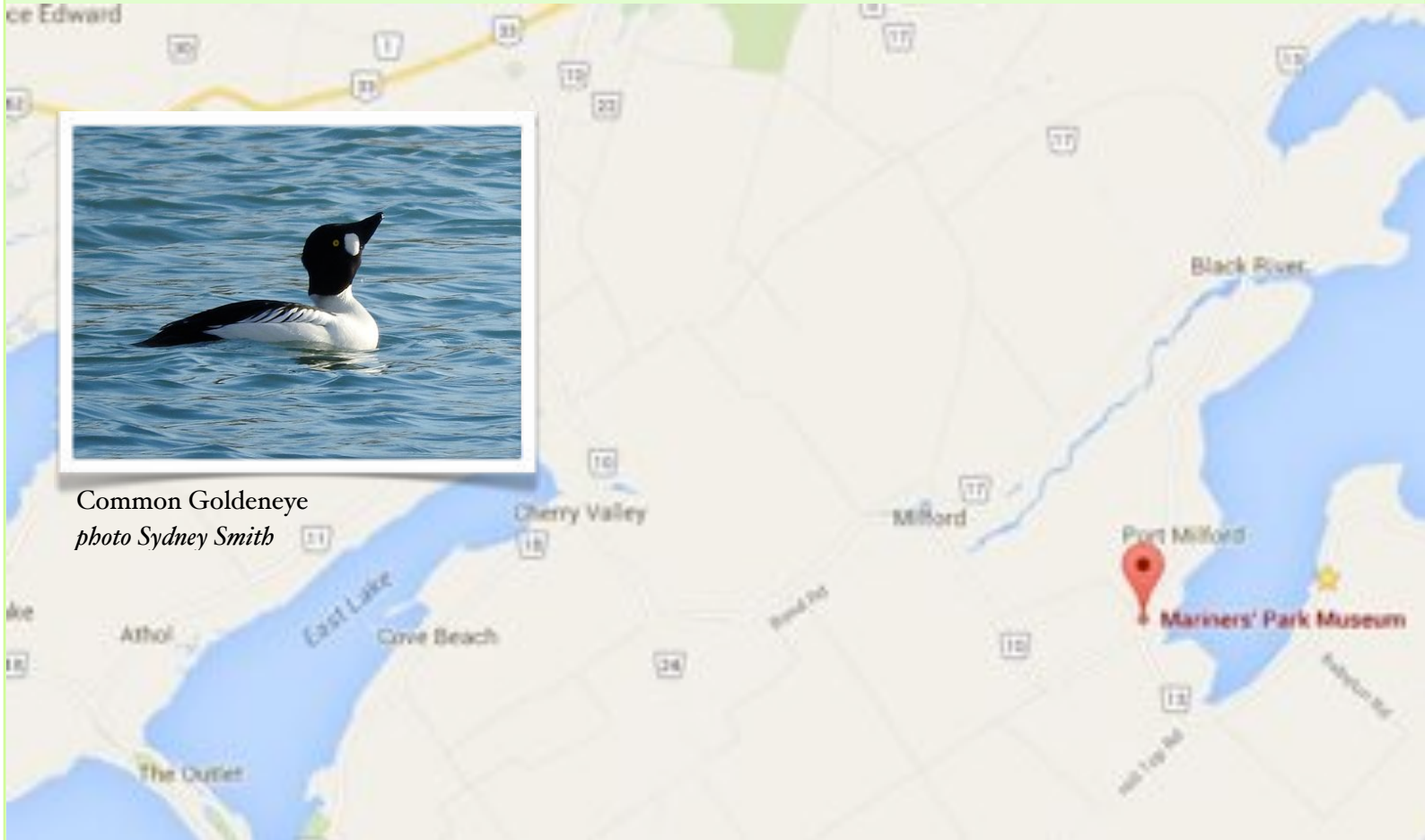
Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory's Spring Waterfowl Count.

When: **Saturday April 2, from 8:30 to 12:00**

Where: Meet at the Mariner's Park Museum at 8:30 a.m. (corner of County Rd 13 and County Road 10 - at South Bay south of the Black River Cheese store.)



Common Goldeneye
photo Sydney Smith



Schedule: We'll form teams and assign the different viewing points. We'll also have time to do some land bird counts along the roads and be finished by noon.

Food!: Lunch is provided (12:30 in Picton) so please plan to stay.

If you would like to participate please email me peptbo.peter@gmail.com to confirm. Please let me know if you can bring a scope and if you will be staying for lunch. If you need a ride to the event, let me know and we'll try to arrange some carpooling. Hope to see you there. *Peter Fuller PEptBO*

TAPAS AND WINE TASTING



a PECFN fundraising event for the Save The South Shore Fund

5:30 pm

Saturday April 23, 2016

PEC Curling Club
Picton Fair Grounds



Another exciting
fun-filled PECFN
fund raiser

Only \$ 70

Includes HST & Gratuity

Wine Tastings

Examples of wines to be offered.

2010 Marques de Murrieta Capellania Rioja Blanco

"Aromas of white flowers, sliced pears, pineapple and chrysanthemum. Lilacs too. Full body plus mineral, stone and bright fruit flavors. It lasts for minutes on the palate. From a single plot of viura on the estate. It is barrel fermented and then aged 17 months. A great white" .. 95/100 - James Suckling

2007 Castillo Ygay Rioja Gran Reserva Tinto

"The aromas of this show an amazing freshness of flowers and herbs such as lavender, rosemary, and violet. Then it goes to raspberry, candy and currants. Black licorice too. A truly great wine on the nose. Full-bodied, racy and linear. So polished. It's like a red ruby. 86% tempranillo and 14% mazuelo in the blend. "...98/100 - James Suckling

Wine tickets, \$2 each, to be purchased separately.

No. of tickets needed for each 2.5 oz tasting depends on wine selected.

Experience an exciting evening in an eclectic and lively informal atmosphere. Sample a unique variety of famous wines brought directly from Spain for you by our County wine importer Ian Hanna. Pair these magnificent wines to your choice of exquisite savoury Spanish dishes, 'tapas', prepared for you by renowned County chef Michael Hoy.

For reservations call Sheena
613-399-1461

For more information and
to reserve online visit
savethesouthshore.org

Quinte Field Naturalists in Belleville

Quinte Field Naturalists
**FUNDRAISING
DINNER**

April 25, 6 p.m.

Featuring

Steve Burrows

**Award Winning Author of the
Birder Murder Mysteries**

Past recipient of a 'Nature Writer of the Year' award from the BBC's Wildlife magazine, former editor of the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society Magazine, contributing field editor for Asian Geographic, Steve Burrows has now turned his passion for Nature into an award-winning mystery series. In his presentation, Steve will look at how the concept of weaving environmental themes into a crime story morphed into his Birder Murder Mystery series. He will also discuss his evolution from a career in writing non-fiction, to his current direction in writing fiction and the impact he hopes the messages in his books will have on a new audience of non-birders.

**St. Mark's United Church - 237 Cannifton Road North, Cannifton
Buffet Dinner (Including Vegetarian Options) - \$28 per person**

Call Doug Newfield for tickets: 613-477-3066



The First Nations Burial Sites and Villages of Prince Edward County

Tuesday, April 26th, 7:00, Bloomfield Town Hall

Speaker: George Reid

First Nations peoples have most likely been living in Prince Edward County since the end of the last Ice Age. Up until European contact, due to its abundance of eel, fish, wildlife, nutmeats, and the opportunity it provided to plant squash, corn and beans, the County supported a vibrant population of up to 20,000 First Nations peoples. By 1550, the County was deserted of its resident First Nations peoples -used instead as seasonal hunting and gathering grounds. Evidence of this ancient thriving population exists throughout the County, most clearly in the form of remnant villages and burial sites.

George Reid is a County resident who has been researching First Nations history since the 1970s. 7 years ago he and local historian Ron Bailey started the project of researching and documenting First Nations burial sites and villages in Prince Edward County through the use of Google maps and other satellite programs, in order to protect and preserve this important history.



**Spring outing in Peter's Woods with the Willow Beach Field Naturalists
Tuesday, May 10, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m.**

Elizabeth and Roger Kellogg of the Willow Beach Field Naturalists will take us on a guided tour of Peter's Woods and other interesting habitats in the



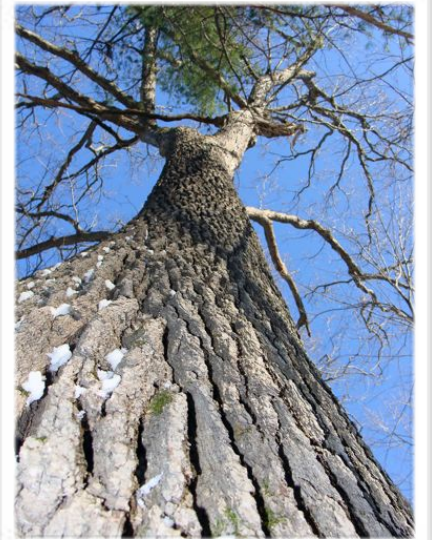
TSprague/_PetersWoods_

Peter's Woods, a Nature Reserve located near Grafton, remains a virtually untouched maple-beech forest, one of the most mature deciduous woodlands in southern Ontario.

surrounding area.

We will look for the arrival of spring wildflowers and breeding birds as we explore these majestic woods and the habitats they support.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the Essroc Arena parking lot in Wellington on County Rd 2 (Belleville Rd), just north of Highway 33. We will carpool from there. The drive takes about an hour and a half. We will meet up with the Kellogg's at Peter's Woods at 10:00 a.m. and stay with them until 3:00 in order to return by 5:00.



Dutchman's-breeches photo by Donald McClure

Bring a packed lunch, snacks, plenty of water and dress appropriately. Insect repellent is recommended. A donation to the Willow Beach Field Naturalists will be collected. \$10.00 per person is recommended. **RSVP**

International Migratory Bird Day. May 14

by Myrna Wood

May 14 2016, the opening day of the PEPtBO Birding Festival, is also International Migratory Bird Day. This year we are celebrating the centenary of the signing of the Migratory Bird Treaty between the US and Britain (for Canada) on August 16, 1916. This treaty ended the indiscriminate killing of birds for recreational hunting and fashion feathers. Roger Tory Peterson worked to end this pointless killing and strengthen the Treaty. He said, "Birds are an ecological litmus paper."

Unfortunately, we still need today to continue the fight to preserve avian wildlife. The Ontario government intends to allow hunters to kill Mourning doves for sport. The Federal and Provincial governments do not recognize Important Bird Areas, critical to bird's survival, with protection. As we know the PEC South Shore IBA is threatened with the construction of several turbine projects. Currently, pesticides are being applied at nearly twice the rate they were 50 years ago when Rachel Carson published *Silent Spring*. These pesticides are not only harming birds but have drastically reduced populations of all pollinators threatening our food supply.

Many species of common birds such as swallows and our own Canada warbler are declining precipitously. Let us all renew our commitment to preserving Canada's birds.



Black throated green warbler
photo by Brian Durell

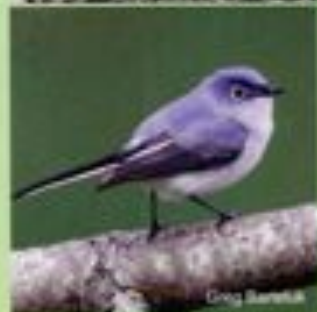


Nashville Warbler/
photo by S Smith

Spring Birding Festival

Spring Birding Festival

May 14th - 23rd 2016



Prince Edward County is an extraordinary birding location with the highest concentration and abundance of migratory birds anywhere on the Canadian side of Lake Ontario.

Guided Bird Walks and Tours: \$5 per person

- Weekend days May 14, 15, 21, 22, 23 - **8 a.m.** Point Traverse Woods; meet at the portable toilette
- Weekend days May 14, 15, 21, 22, 23 - **10 a.m.** Cedar Woods and the Lighthouse; meet at the Bird Observatory
- Saturdays May 14 & 21 - **4 p.m.** Cedar Woods and the Lighthouse; meet at the Bird Observatory.
- Friday May 20 - **8 a.m.** Mike Burrell from the Natural Heritage Information Centre will lead a walk on the Millennium Trail through the recently designated Provincially Significant wetland at Hubbs Creek. Meet at the Wellington LCBO

BOOT CAMP for Birders at Jackson's Falls Country Inn

Saturday & Sunday May 7-8

A two-day workshop (1 day indoors, 1 day outdoors) presented by Pamela Stagg for new and experienced birders to learn field marks, binocular use and more. \$160 per person (\$150 for guests of Jackson's Falls Country Inn). Deposit on registration \$50.

Reserve at www.peptbo.ca

Bird 'Til You Drop

Sunday May 15: A guided day-long birding tour of Prince Edward County. Join County birders to visit their special birding sites. \$100 donation to PEPTBO (Tax receipts will be issued). Transportation, snacks and lunch included, limited space available. Reserve early at www.peptbo.ca

Night Time Adventures - Travelling Show \$5 per person

Friday May 20, 8 p.m.: Meet at the Marketplace Parking Lot in Picton to join local birders to see Chimney Swifts in downtown Picton; listen for Whip-poor-wills in the South Shore Important Bird area and finish off with Screech Owls in Glenwood Cemetery.



PEPtBO Spring Birding Festival Bird Photography Contest

May 1-21

In celebration of the centenary of **International Migratory Bird Day on May 14**

Here are the Rules:

1. Subject: A bird photo of a **migratory bird** taken within the last 24 months in Prince Edward County.
2. Format: 5x7, B&W or colour, unframed. Put name, address, phone, plus when and where photo was taken on back of photo. Limit of two photos per person.
3. Submission: Drop off at 28 Low St., Picton from May 1 until noon on Saturday, May 21. Photos will be posted in the window at 7 Elizabeth St. during the contest period and winning photos will be posted on www.peptbo.ca
4. Judging: Members and guests at the PEPtBO Annual General Meeting, Saturday, May 28, will judge the photos and 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes will be awarded.
photo by Bruce Parker

More spring outings In May and June



Dutchman's Breeches *photo by B Durell*

Annual wildflower walk to Mountainview with Molly Mulloy dates to be announced:



Dogtooth violet
photo J Foster

Sunday June 5 (or raindate June 6) an outing to the Moorhead property, wetland and island in **Rednersville** led by Sheila Kuja looking for spring wildflowers and by Heather Coffey looking at lichens. RSVP



photos by T.Sprague



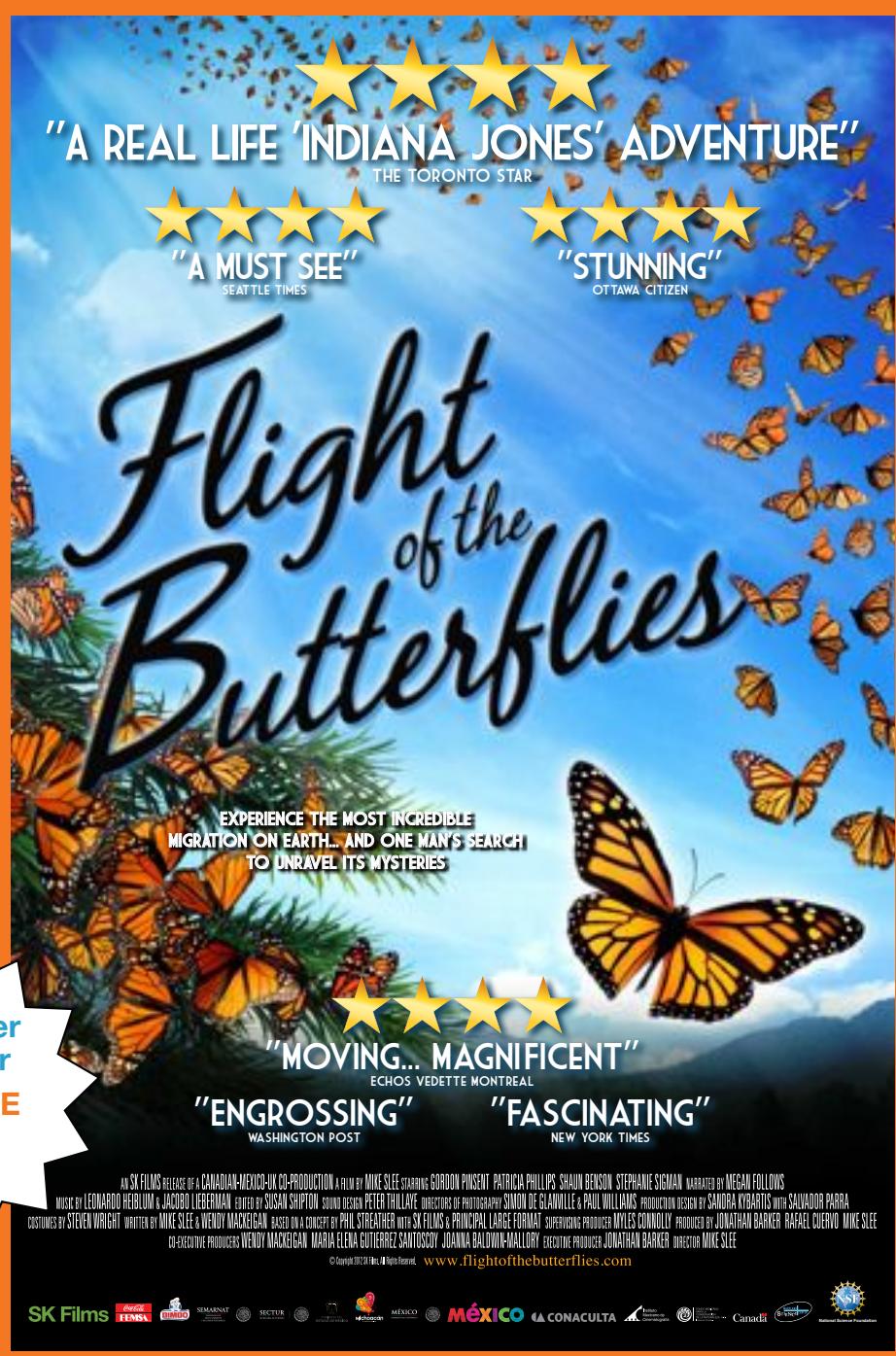
Another exciting and fascinating PECFN film fundraiser for the Save the South Shore Appeal.



Award winning 2012 Canadian documentary starring Gorden Pinsent narrated by Megan Follows telling the story of the decades long discovery of the overwintering site of the Monarch butterflies in Mexico.

PECFN
[Prince Edward County Field Naturalists]
proudly presents

A fundraiser event for **SAVE THE SOUTH SHORE**



WEDNESDAY MAY 18
7 pm at **THE REGENT THEATRE** in Picton
TICKETS at the DOOR: \$15 adults / 18 years and under FREE

Saturday May 21 at 10 am

Another exciting
fun-filled PECFN
fund raiser



Spring Riverwalk

Mark your calendars now for the spring edition of River Walk: Join us Saturday May 21 at 10 am for a pleasant guided walk through the beautiful meadow lands surrounding the river and waterfalls at 745 Crowes Rd. Milford. Refreshments will be served. Admission by donation to the South Shore Appeal Fund. Information and to

register: www.savethesouthshore.org



PECFN Native Plant Sale.
Saturday, May 28th
Macaulay Mountain Conservation Area beside Birdhouse City

Prince Edward County is soon to have its first Native Plant Sale. Over 500 plants have been ordered from native plant nurseries. Many have been donated to the field naturalists by **Peter Fuller of Fuller Rare and Native plants.** **Saturday, May 28th** is the day to mark on your calendar. If you want to add native plants to your garden or create a special pollinator garden, then you will be able to find what you need at the plant sale. There will be both **woodland plants** and **plants for sunny sites.** Be sure to get some **butterfly milkweed** to help out the monarch butterflies. The plant sale is a fundraiser for PECFN and we hope it will be a big success. So save May 28th for the plant sale and make your way down to **Macaulay Mountain Conservation Area** beside Birdhouse City to get your plants.



wild columbine *photo/Terry Sprague*



Aster *photo/BDurell*



Dogtooth violet
photo/BDurell

PECFN's May 31 AGM speaker
Bloomfield Town Hall 7pm

Fifty Years A Naturalist: *Terry Sprague*



When Terry Sprague sold the family farm in 1976, he entertained thoughts of driving a tour bus for a living. However, a chance meeting with the late Jack Christie of Glenora Fisheries set him off on a different course. He began a career of working with wildlife, ultimately becoming a park naturalist and enjoying almost 40 years of interpreting nature through hikes, eventually developing an outdoor program for Quinte Conservation

During that time, he has been the pied piper of nature from Kingston, west to Cobourg, has done indoor presentations, workshops, seminars, boat tours, kayak tours, aerial tours, and even tried caving. He did realize his earlier dream though of being involved with tour buses, but now as a step on guide for local bus companies. As he reflects on his career, he has amassed an enormous collection of stories and misadventures, some of which he will share with you in this presentation.



PECFN'S Third Annual BIOBLITZ at LITTLE BLUFF CONSERVATION AREA June 25-26

Please mark your calendars and plan to come out and help, and participate. If everyone in the club could, it would be fantastic!

Volunteers needed for just two hours on either Saturday or Sunday (anytime between 10 AM Sat., for set up, until noon on Sunday)



Little Bluff photos by Terry Sprague

This is a club-sponsored event that is a great opportunity to learn more about the flora and fauna that call PEC home while enjoying time with fellow naturalists, being ambassadors for the club and contributing to the documentation of the Biodiversity we have in the County.



Each leader will need an assistant to keep a list of what was seen on their walk. You could be that person! Perhaps you feel more comfortable directing traffic: you could be in charge of parking.

- **Sitting at a table helping with registration** and orientation of participants for two hours means that it doesn't fall on the shoulders of only one or two people to spend the entire time fulfilling those tasks. Everyone should have a chance to learn from the excellent leaders who will be there that weekend.
- **Preparing salads or cookies is a valuable contribution**
- **We'll again have a BBQ on Saturday night** and on Sunday afternoon and will need someone, or a team, to be in charge of food (not too complicated as we will be having hot dogs for dinner and hamburgers for lunch).



If you haven't already had a chance to look at The Point Petre Bioblitz Report, please do so at the SSAF website or Terry Sprague's Naturestuff website. We discover lots of interesting plants and animals and have fun conducting this valuable "snap-shot in time" survey. We are calling on you, our members, for your co-operation and support.

- **Please e-mail Sheila (sanda.kuja@bell.net)** to let her know when you'd be available and how you'd like to help.

March 29 Sue Banks PECFN
 speaker Bloomfield town hall
 7pm
 p.3

APRIL 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Spring Waterfowl Count p.4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Tapas & Spanish Wine Dinner p.13
24	25 Quinte Dinner p.6	26 George Reid PECFN speaker Aboriginal History p. 7	27	28	29	30

MAY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 BOOT CAMP for Birders at Jackson's Falls Country Inn P.10
8 BOOT CAMP for Birders at Jackson's Falls Country Inn P.10	9	10 Peter's Woods PECFN outing p. 8	11	12	13	14 Internat'l Migratory Bird Day p.9
15	16	17	18 Flight of the Butterflies at Regent p13	19	20	21 Guided Bird Walks and Tours p.10
22	23 Victoria Day (Many regions)	24	25	26	27 Night Time Adventures - Travelling Show p.10	28 Spring Riverwalk p 14
29	30	31 PECFN's AGM speaker Terry Sprague p.16	June 25-26 PECFN'S Third Annual BIOBLITZ at LITTLE BLUFF p17			

Bird 'Til You Drop p. 10



Guided Bird Walks and Tours May 14 -23 see p. 10

Minutes of PECFN Executive Meeting Tues. Feb. 2, 12 – 2 PM

2. Status Reports

A. Membership:

There are 73 paid up members and 4 honorary members. One new member joined at the January meeting: Kevin Boone.

B. Treasurer:

Insurance (\$736.56) paid; Hall rental (\$399) paid; Nature Canada dues (\$75) paid.

Balance in OPAF account as of Feb. 1: \$2,792.00; plus Pay pal \$413.28; plus \$25 donation = \$3,230.28

Balance in PECFN account: \$4,083.08 minus \$736.56 (insurance) = \$2,346.52

Add \$110 (membership) and \$45 (gift from Myrna) = \$2,501.52

Add 252.43 (donation from Friends of Scots' Mill) = \$2,753.95

After much discussion on the SSAF, a motion was put forward by Myrna, seconded by Sheila and passed unanimously that "The PECFN website should remain as it is with the exception of the thermometer, which will be removed and replaced by the statement: "We have already raised over \$250,000 toward the protection of Ostrander Point." and add "We are united in our efforts to protect the environmental integrity of the South Shore and encourage donations to the South Shore Appeal Fund."

This allows us to continue to track our own expenses and donations and pay Eric directly whenever possible while also working with APPEC on joint fundraising ventures.

C. Programs:

(1) Outdoor – The Feb. 9 outing to Point Petre and Apr. 17 OFO outing to Prince Edward Point are already planned. Amy will speak to Mike Burrell about the possibility of him leading a walk along the Millennium Trail during the Spring Birding Festival for us. She will also ask him to join her, Todd Norris and Andy Margetson when they inventory the Slabb Creek wetland complex. Amy will also contact the Willow Beach Naturalist Club regarding a trip to Peter's Woods in late April or early May.

(2) Indoor – Feb. 23. Sandra will contact Mark Read to see if he needs overnight accommodation. She will introduce him at the meeting. Sheila will thank him and give him the cheque from the club.

Possibilities for next fall and winter speakers: David Bree, Madagascar; Chris Reed, grasslands (Amy will ask); Heather Coffey on lichens (and perhaps an outing for lichens) and Gavin North (Honey pie Herbs and Herbals) on bees. We'll need to see when they are available.

D. Fundraising:

1. Walkathon – was a successful joint venture and made \$2310.

2. May 28 Native Plant Sale – Preparations are going well. A number of people have volunteered to help. The plant list has been finalized but we need to find ways of publicizing the event. Amy will continue to work on the banner with Marjorie. Amy will take banner to shop in Belleville to have grommets inserted in the banner and ask if they do printing. The banner will be either in the building at the plant sale or on the Conservation Authorities sign at the road and available for other events. Quinte Conservation will be approached to see if this is possible as an additional way of publicizing the event on the day of the sale.

3. Film Flight of the Butterflies – Myrna asked Paul Catling if he would be available on May 18. He won't know until sometime in March but if he can't make it, he'll find someone to come as a replacement. He and Don Davis could describe the importance of the habitat on the south shore. The idea of advertising all events together was thought not to be a good one. Do a quarter page in the Wellington Times one week and a quarter page advert in the Gazette the next

(\$180 X 2). If we pay for an ad, usually the papers will write an article to further publicize the event, so it's worthwhile. Birding Festival events are advertised as a package and can refer to the Film event during the week.

4. Apr. 23 Annual Dinner – only wine will be auctioned by Ian Hanna, no artwork this time. There's a possibility of having a theme this time; maybe Spanish food with Spanish wine or continue as usual with a French style dinner. Sandra will have more information at the next meeting.

5. Diana Beresford Kroeger – Myrna contacted her agent. *UPDATE: the agent called asking what dates we wanted. He said the film is nearing completion for early dates in the US. He will put us on a schedule for August or September and contact us then.*

E. Ostrander Point and Tribunal –Eric was not too concerned about the SEV issue raised by the Tribunal judges. He was more concerned with the hints that Gilead Power gave that they might continue to appeal to Divisional Court if there approval is revoked again.

F. Official Plan – Myrna and Amy submitted a new resolution to the contractors writing the official plan review, requesting that the Millennium Trail wetlands be added to the list of 'Natural core areas'. We will monitor the Council calendar for dates when the Review will be discussed.

G. Bioblitz – The report is finally complete and will be sent out to all the participants. Printing at the Print Practice will be delayed until Feb 8 when the owners return from their vacation. We hope the 2016 Bioblitz will take place at Little Bluff Conservation Area, tentatively on June 18-19. This is still within the SSIBA but is perhaps a bit more "family friendly" since residents may have already visited the site for picnics or an afternoon walk. Terry has already agreed to participate and can relate the history of the granary. We will contact David Smallwood at Quinte Conservation about permission. Perhaps the 2017 Bioblitz will be at the Miller Nature Reserve.

J. Millennium Trail wetlands – Amy is composing a deputation for us and the Millennium Trail Committee to take to Council to resolve issues about protecting the wetlands habitat and responsible use by multi-parties.

K. Monarch gardens – Milford Rec Committee will consider a Monarch garden project .

3. New Business

Amy received an email from Borys about putting a petition on change.org or Avaz (Molly contacted all of us about that). Molly also wanted to set up a concert with Sarah Harman to raise awareness about the South Shore. Perhaps PECFN should help Molly with this. Amy will ask Ryan if he will contact Sarah about a concert at The Regent

**Minutes of the Executive Meeting
Prince Edward County Field Naturalists
Picton Library
March 2, 2016, noon-2:00 p.m.**

Present: Sue Banks, Elizabeth Cowan, Sandra Dowds, Gerry Jenkison, Sheena Kennedy, Sheila Kuja, Agneta Sand, Myrna Wood

Regrets: Amy Bodman

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Status Reports

(A) Membership

We have 72 paid-up members and 46 who are on the books but haven't paid their 2016 dues yet.

(B) Treasurer

The following balances were reported:

PECFN: \$3,413.01

OPAF: \$2,814.50

PayPal: \$616.29

(C) Programs

Outdoor programs

April 2: spring waterfowl count

April 17: OFO outing in the County, led by Mike Burrell

May 14-22 Birding Festival

May 20: 9:00 a.m.: PECFN Hubbs Creek wetland walk with Mike Burrell; **8:00 p.m.:** Festival evening bird walk at Marketplace parking lot for Swifts, IBA for Whip-poor-wills, Glenwood Cemetery for Screech owls

June 25-26: BioBlitz at Little Bluff Conservation Area

Amy has contacted the Willow Beach Naturalists about an outing to Peter's Woods on May 10. Molly Mulloy will lead a walk at Mountain View in May. Sandra will look into a walk through the Morehead family property on Rednersville Road, possibly in early June; Sheila could act as our expert on plants and trees.

Indoor programs

March 29: Sue Banks – Wildflowers in the County, including their medicinal uses. Myrna will make a poster and Sue will arrive at 6:15 to set up.

April 26: George Reid – Aboriginal History in the County. Amy has confirmed with him.

May 31: Terry Sprague – Fifty Years a Naturalist

Suggested speakers for the season starting next September include David Bree (Madagascar) – Sandra will contact; Chris Reed (grasslands) – Amy will contact; Heather Coffey (lichens) -- Sheila will contact; and Gavin North (bees). Sheila will also contact John Riley, author of *The Once and Future Lakes*.

Sept 27

Oct 25

Nov 29

Jan 31, 2017

Feb 28

Mar 28

Apr 25

May 30

(D) Fundraising Committee

The menu for the annual PECFN dinner (**April 23**) has been changed to reflect a Spanish theme: Chef Michael Hoy will prepare tapas and Ian Hanna will provide Spanish wines for a wine tasting. There will be a few tables, but mostly people will circulate. Possibilities such as a wine auction and Spanish music were discussed.

Kato Wake has created a poster for the screening of the film *Flight of the Butterflies* (**May 18**). Paul Catling will be able to attend. Gerry and Amy will plan a program with Paul and Don Davis. A short film will be shown on milkweed. Cheryl Anderson will organize a Monarch March of children in butterfly costumes from the Library to the Regent.

Sue has put a notice about the native plant sale (**May 28**) in the North American Native Plant Society journal and will make a poster for the sale. She will also speak to Quinte Conservation about using their noticeboard. Pictures of the mature plants should be put up next to the seedlings, so Gerry will format the pictures appropriately and Sheena will run them off on her colour printer. Sue will ask Cheryl for sandwich boards. Myrna will ask Robin Lunn about setting up her pollinator information table.

Diana Beresford Kroeger's agent has called about the possibility of screening *Ten Trees That Can Save the World* as a fundraiser in August or September. The documentary *The Messenger* is being screened in Belleville this Friday. We will consider showing it during the fall Migration Matters; Gerry will investigate the costs of the United or Presbyterian churches.

Fundraising ideas are needed for the joint legal fund. Sheena pointed out that it shouldn't always be the members of the executive planning projects: the membership needs to be involved.

(E) Ostrander Point and Tribunal:

Cheryl and Borys would be grateful for relevant material they could include on the website. We will write articles about each event planned.

CCSAGE is holding its AGM on **March 13** at the Waring House, and we have been asked to speak about the progress of PECFN's legal battle.

(F) Official Plan Review

The revised draft Review is scheduled to be posted on the County website on April 14, with a special Council meeting to follow on April 28 at 7:00 p.m.

(G) BioBlitz

June 25-6 Little Bluff. Sheila will contact leaders, get the committees together and confer with Cheryl on submitting applications for grants. She is looking into the prospects for a private property for next year.

Sheila will apply for a Biodiversity Day grant for the Bioblitz.

(H) Birding Festival (May 14-22)

International Migratory Bird Day is **May 14** this year, which is also the centennial of the signing of the original Migratory Bird Treaty and the opening of the Birding Festival.

Biodiversity Day is **May 22**. Sheila suggested we mark it with a tour from Point Petre to the Bird Observatory. Local politicians should be invited, an article should appear in the *Gazette*, and we will ask Terry Sprague and Dick Bird to talk to participants. Myrna will write a plan for the day.

The Great Canadian Birdathon, which until last year was known as the Baillie Birdathon, takes place in May.

(I) Ontario Nature

The spring meeting of the Eastern Region will be held at the Bloomfield Town Hall on **April 2**. We will be at the hall at 9:00 a.m. to set up tables and start coffee in the 50 cup pot. Sandra will bring small coffee urn for the morning. Visitors will bring their own lunches. Sheena will bring a tray of raw veg & some dip; Sue will bring muffins; Myrna will bring carrot cake; Gerry will bring water. We will offer an afternoon walk to the Wellington Harbour and the Millennium Trail.

(J) Millennium Trail

Amy has written a draft deputation to Council for the Trail Committee. Barry Davidson has supported it. The cycling club, which attained the grant for resurfacing the Trail, is expected to support the draft as well. We don't know the reaction of the ATVers and snowmobilers. We will plan to attend the Committee of the Whole on **March 24**.

(K) Monarch gardens

Myrna clarified the public education idea of the gardens project. Sue and Gerry will make short presentations to the Milford Recreation Committee meeting on **March 10**.

(L) Newsletter – deadline March 23

3. New Business

(i) The Horticultural Society is holding its annual Garden Show on **June 11** at the Crystal Palace and has invited PECFN to set up an information table in the Bluebird Room. Volunteers will be needed.

(ii) It was suggested to ask the new Local Store to sell the *Butterfly Guide*, but they would want to take a cut, so we decided to decline.

(iii) Emily Boone of PECE's Environment Club is interested in PECFN and it agreed that we should send her the newsletter. Club members could be invited to take part in the Biodiversity Day walk. It was suggested that Lisa Richardson could be asked at the Ontario Nature regional meeting about youth groups.

(iv) Amy and Myrna will make a plan for making a filmed record of the South Shore starting in April.

4. Next meeting

Tues., **April 5**, noon to 2:00, in the upstairs public room at the Picton Library.