

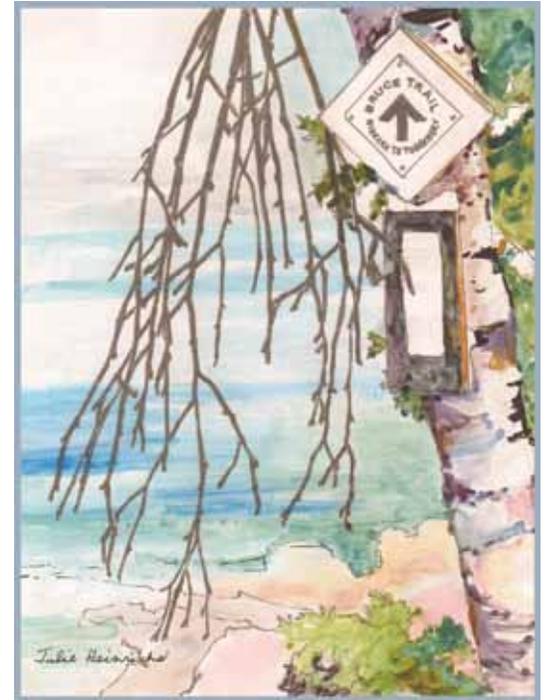
The Rattler



ISSUE #2 2012

President's Message

I am writing this having just returned from helping complete an exciting reroute just south of Dyers Bay. Seven hundred metres of trail were moved onto optimum route. None of this would have happened without the co-operation of the conservation-minded "Michigander" landowners (who first let us locate trail here and subsequently donated the land to BTC for conservation); as well as the dedicated volunteers, who maintained positive relations with the land owners, planned and built the trail. Last year, your board approved an ambitious plan to get 7 km of trail off-road in the Barrow Bay area. This involves use of the Barrow Bay side trail to connect to lands owned by the BTC, then following road allowance out to Bruce Road 9 just south of Barrow Bay. Approval was quickly received from the Municipality (for the road allowance) and the Niagara Escarpment Commission (for a staircase on the BTC property). Unfortunately, both approvals are tied up in appeals processes by local land-owners. We hope to clear these obstacles in the near future, either through the appeals process or, preferably, by easing the appellants concerns.



Artwork by Julie Heinrichs

Ironically, there was a letter in the last Rattler claiming that, "the Club's directors have steadfastly refused to even consider suggestions that the entire Trail should some day be off-road." This is both unfortunate and incorrect. Please look inside for an article on the BT Optimum Route for an overview of how trail location is determined.

Our End-to-End starts on August 11th. This year we have a guest leader, John Grandy, who is a club member and Trail Director for all nine BTC clubs. This is an opportunity for John to know our trail and for you to get to know John. See inside for the full schedule as well as other upcoming hikes.

Sheila Buckingham and her committee are busy putting the finishing touches on plans for our annual Outdoor Festival which runs September 28th – 30th.

The BTC (then BT Association) was founded in 1962; and the trail was officially opened in 1967. Therefore, BTC 50th anniversary celebrations are planned for 2012 – 2017. You may be interested to know that organization of our club started in 1962 – and that we were officially 'chartered' (as the Lion's Head Club) on June 5th, 1966. Accordingly, we will celebrate our 50th in 2016.

Enjoy the summer & fall hiking season – and please do get involved. Join a hike, volunteer, or donate. I guarantee a rewarding experience!

John Whitworth, August 2012

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Any articles or stories of interest?
Deadline for submissions to next Rattler:
"November 14, 2012"

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The current executive team of the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club can be found on our website: www.pbtc.ca

New Trails Don't Just Happen - Rattlesnakes and Roundleaf Ragwort



Rattler on Dyer's Bay Property

Our members and other hikers do sometimes ask us how we go about planning and building a new trail. It seems a pretty daunting task to make a trail look like it belongs on the landscape. Many stages are involved: securing the escarpment corridor or gaining a handshake agreement with the landowner, planning the route of main trail and side trails (usually a scalloped route along the escarpment), flagging the proposed route, consultations and approvals with the BTC trail director and ecologists, adjustments if necessary, rough cutting with chainsaw crew, loppers and buck saws, final clearing and possibly raking the trail, blazing the new trail and adjusting or removing old trails or old blazes. Finally the new trail is GPSed, mapped and measured into the BTC database and mapping GIS system to be published as what appears to be a simple 'trail change' in the BT magazine.

The Dyers Bay properties were acquired in two stages in 2007 and 2009 with the generous cooperation and partial donation by the previous owners known locally as 'The Michiganders'.

The trail on the north property was laid out and begun with permission in January 2006. The crew were very lucky to have mild temperatures and little snow to begin with. This initial main trail reroute was completed on the north property in 2007 and partially adjusted in 2010 to provide an easier climb in the north and to avoid a patch of 'species at risk' on the stretch returning to Britain Lake Road.

The most recent stretch through the middle and south properties came about as a result of our former trail development director Grant Ehrhardt's work with the previous owners.

Over the spring of 2012 there were several explorations under the direction of trail development director Laurence Acland. Our trail experts flagged a promising route which in turn was approved by the BTC Trail Director and the BTC ecologists. On June 14 two crews of four with chain saws and other tools began from each end to clear the trail until they met in the middle. On June 15 two more crews of four returned for a finish clearing of the new trail. Measuring and mapping of the new trail section remains to be completed but we already are looking forward to a further extension of the main trail to the south as another complex real estate deal works its way through the Canadian and American government red tape.

The present network of trails in the Dyers Bay area is too complex and our plan is to simplify the pattern using the new trails. All in all the process involves literally hundreds of hours of hard work by both volunteers and BTC staff. The Peninsula Club thanks the many volunteers and staff for all the work that went into the basis for your continued enjoyment of this spectacular passage.

See map page 16



Ecologist Brian Popelier inspecting Roundleaf Ragwort

The Sun Shines on the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club AGM

The Changing of the Guard took place on May 5th, at Summer House in Miller Lake as the 2012 Peninsula Bruce Trail Club Executive stepped into their new duties. The weather was perfect for those hard workers on the trails creating clean, safe paths for the hikers of the new season and the ambiance at the AGM was nothing short of pure team work and a great spirit that befits any event after a good, healthy workout. Sheila and Jeff Buckingham provided a wonderful BBQ meal for all while Darci Lombard and family graciously provided their Summer House surroundings for tired trail workers to relax in.

The AGM went so smoothly and the people were so much in agreement (or completely worn out from cleaning their trails), that the annual reports and summaries were all rapidly accepted and the new executive voted into position in record time. As John Greenhouse, Past President announced, "This meeting is like a democracy on amphetamines!" And so the fun continued.

Outgoing President, Don McIlraith expressed his gratitude and appreciation to all members and assured everyone, if you want to know why this club is such a success, "look in the mirror". McIlraith also expressed deep gratitude to those landowners who share these treasured trails that run through their properties and how so many hikers give appreciative feedback for this thoughtful gesture. Incoming President is John Whitworth who was welcomed by Don McIlraith with the ever famous Gavel Pacifier...so the fun and great leadership will continue. New Directors at Large are Ken Clark and Bridget Rosser.

Retiring members of the PBTC executive were thanked and presented with certificates of appreciation. These included Grace Telfer, Mike Marshall, Roger Plomley, Daryl Cowell, Case Hoffer and Bob MacKay.

Special recognition was given to Laurence Acland, for his passion and dedication to the trail maintenance and other numerous projects. For this he received the much coveted "John Appleton Porcupine Award". Also recognized was member, Dave Moule, who has shown tremendous dedication and commitment to the Bruce Trail Club both here on the peninsula and also with the Caledon club.

Executive Director of Bruce Trail Conservancy, Beth Kummling was present to express her appreciation to all volunteers and to announce that a new donation of land is forthcoming for Bruce Trail development, bringing a total of 550 acres this year which will be available for the public to enjoy. Volunteers are invited to a Volunteer Rally this coming June 9th, at the Dundas Valley Conservation Area, Trail Centre, from 11:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. to celebrate the 1962 beginnings of the Bruce Trail Clubs.

Hiking on the Bruce is a great magnet for tourism and economic development but most importantly, it offers wonderful enjoyment, health benefits and an appreciation of nature for all to partake in. For further information on hiking the Bruce Trail go to websites: www.pbtc.ca and www.brucetrail.org

Roger Plomley

* * * * *



The 2012 Executive of the PBTC is as follows:

President: **John Whitworth**
Past President: **Don McIlraith**
Vice President: **Walter Brewer**
PBTC Appointee to the BTC: **John Whitworth**
Treasurer: **Henry Weickert**
Secretary: **Bob Light**
Trail Maintenance: **Jeff Buckingham,**
John VanBastelaar, Walter Brewer
Trail Development: **Laurence Acland**
Land Owner Relations: **Darci Lombard**
Land Stewardship: **Grant Ehrhardt**
Land Securement: **Bill Graham**
Land Securement 11: **Peter Miller**
Sales: **Jane Greenhouse**
Correspondence: **Chris Jeffries**

Membership: **Rob Straby**
Newsletter Editor: **Ken Clark**
Webmaster: **Jamie Hember**
Hike Co-ordinator: **Sue Allen**
Special Events: **Sheila Buckingham**
Highway Clean-up: **Joan and Don McIlraith**
Archives: **John Greenhouse**
Event Hosting: **Louise Jamieson**
Director at Large: **Bridget Rosser**
Stewardship Committee: **David Clipsham**
Honorary Director: **John Appleton**
Rep to PAC (Nat. Park Advisory Board): **Bill Graham**
Tobermory Chamber of Commerce:
Jane Greenhouse
Publicity: **Open**



* * * * *

Ever wondered what it is like to be a BTC land steward?

PBTC has over 30 volunteers helping to monitor over 50 properties for the Province and BTC. One of our best land steward teams, Bob and Anita Cunningham, will be leading a demonstration hiking tour of the BTC's Bull Homestead property on September 16th at 1:00 pm. Meet where the Main Trail crosses County Road 9 at the bend atop the south hill in Coploy's Bay Village. Situated on the south side of Bruce County Road 9, just east of Highway 6, this 29 acre property is one of the most ecologically diverse on the Peninsula. While it is largely a tract of slowly re-generating former cow pasture, it contains no less than ten identifiable vegetation communities. It is habitat for several at-risk species. In addition to the parts where the 500 metres of main Bruce Trail passes through, its boundaries include escarpment slope and down to the edge of Colpoy's Bay. Come and join us on September 16 for a view of how the 'other half' of PBTC's volunteer base goes about its business.

Hiker's Tale

A Reader Submits –

Scattered in various places along the Bruce Trail are rather mysterious looking cylindrical holes cut vertically into the bedrock. These are glacial potholes and this is an excellent example near Lion's Head at km 80.2 on Map 38, 26th Edition of the Bruce Trail Reference Maps and Trail Guides.

Such potholes are common in many areas of southern Ontario, even onto the Canadian Shield, and were created when glacial meltwater allowed hard glacial erratic boulders to drill vertically into the softer escarpment bedrock.

Glacial potholes should NOT be confused (as they are in Wikipedia) with glacial kettles that have a totally different origin.

Meltwater travelling along the ice-bedrock interface rotates harder boulders that are trapped in small depressions in the bedrock. These boulders are likely granites, basalts or other hard igneous or metamorphic rock from the Canadian Shield. Their rotation eventually works to create a depression from which they cannot escape. From there it is a matter of them being trundled around as "millstones" in holes, and some potholes can be completely infilled with finer materials as the water-flow diminishes as the ice melts away.

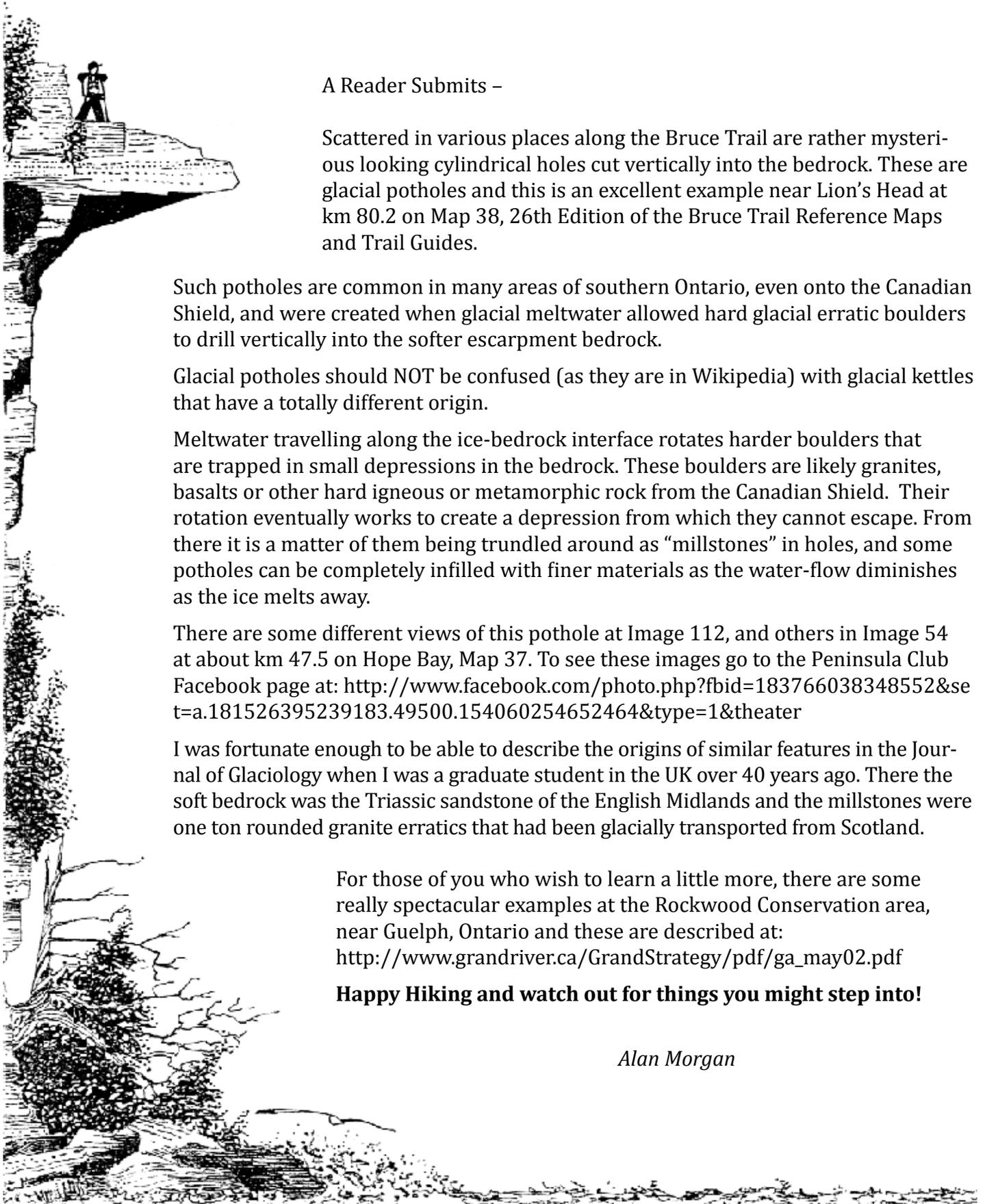
There are some different views of this pothole at Image 112, and others in Image 54 at about km 47.5 on Hope Bay, Map 37. To see these images go to the Peninsula Club Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=183766038348552&set=a.181526395239183.49500.154060254652464&type=1&theater>

I was fortunate enough to be able to describe the origins of similar features in the Journal of Glaciology when I was a graduate student in the UK over 40 years ago. There the soft bedrock was the Triassic sandstone of the English Midlands and the millstones were one ton rounded granite erratics that had been glacially transported from Scotland.

For those of you who wish to learn a little more, there are some really spectacular examples at the Rockwood Conservation area, near Guelph, Ontario and these are described at: http://www.grandriver.ca/GrandStrategy/pdf/ga_may02.pdf

Happy Hiking and watch out for things you might step into!

Alan Morgan



In Issue #1 2012 there was a story titled **“Not a Peninsula Anymore”** that invited readers to continue - here is the last paragraph of the first installment - the full story can be found in the electronic copy of Issue #1 2012.

.....*This Rapture, if that’s what it was, appeared random and incremental, not the dramatic event that some predicted. Besides, many of those who vanished seemed unlikely to be included in the Rapture: the odd drug dealer and crystal-meth maker, some former politicians.*

Disappearances continued and apprehension grew. Many thought the Chi-Chemaun could be their escape. Others were determined to stay and fight it out. As well, many were determined that no one should be allowed to abandon the Peninsula. By Bob Light, Wiarton

continuation**Not a Peninsula Anymore**

It took the longest time to notice, but subtly, the water surrounding Bruce Island was beginning to change. The lapping edge was creeping up over previous high level marks and the colours on the horizon were changing from the reassuring land colours of cedar green and field yellow to shades of sea blue. What was happening? The Pilgrim group that had always wanted to leave decided they could wait no longer. Forests were scoured for the largest trunks to be strapped together into rafts. Pickings were slim as any trees of decent size had been already taken for building and for fuel but in the end four platforms were prepared. Each were rigged with a mast and sail to be used if the winds were favourable and a rudder attached for steerage, but who knew to where? The plan was to head south and follow the escarpment where it was still showed above water. Pushing off from Eastnor Flats the flotilla of four caught the breeze in their sails and started to the east in order to round the Lion’s Head which just broke above the surface. A crowd cheered them on until half way out, when the water around the lead raft became embroiled. The sail could be seen to whip back and forth and then the raft tipped up and slowly sank. The remaining three turned south and seemed to be racing to the Moore Street shore while the seas around the first continued to churn. A roar of relief went up as all three remaining rafts made it back to land and the crowd rushed to hear what caused the capsized.

The survivors reported a horrific encounter with what appeared to be a massive school of mutated Asian Carp. What were once considered to be a menace at 100 pounds and 4’ long were now the size of whales and had become carnivores! Due to their size it was only the shallow depth of the water that had kept them out from shore, but as the sea level was rising so was their range expanding. The Pilgrims could never contemplate escape by water again.

News of these flesh eating behemoths quickly spread throughout the island. Some reflected back to the disappearance of the drug dealers and politicians and wondered if there had been earlier attempts to escape the island by sea by anxious individuals not welcome in the community. Everyone, Pilgrim and Bruce alike, agreed that contact with the outside world was of primary importance to learn what had happened and how far the catastrophe touched.

Then, just as people turned from the rafts and started to disburse a ripple of excitement ran through the crowd. Heads turned skyward following arms pointing upwards to witness a manned hang glider start its controlled descent towards them. They were not alone in the world! After he landed, pilot, Toby Blue answered the first two questions put to him. Yes, other communities survived if they were on high ground and yes the cause of the flooding was known. The United States government had been experimenting with biological warfare to kill the Asian Carp in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. This had failed and instead accelerated a mutation of increased growth supported by a change in their diet to protein. When the scientists discovered what was happening they instructed the Corp of Engineers to use dynamite to kill the carp. This action resulted in the blockage of waterflow down the Mississippi, by the fish carcasses. In addition to the physical mutation the fish were so full of heavy minerals from the toxic waste in the water their flesh would not decompose so created a plug of solid mass great enough to force all the draining water in the canal back into Lake Michigan and up into Lake Ontario and Georgian Bay. To make matters even worse, some Asian Carp had escaped and these now roamed the Great Lakes without a natural predator feeding on fish and any human or animal foolish enough to be in the water. It seemed nothing could be done

.....*By Susan Allen.....*

Who will create the next installment?????????



The New Greenbelt Walks Signs

You may have noticed the new Greenbelt Walks signs in your travels on the Bruce Peninsula lately. These signs are a result of 18 months of work by Bruce County Tourism, the Bruce Peninsula Trail Club and the Greenbelt Walks to direct visitors to the Bruce Trail. As the Bruce Trail is one of the top destinations in Bruce County and is world renowned, these groups felt that more adequate signage was required on major roads such as Highway 6 and Bruce County Road 9 to help visitors find access points to the Trail. The signs are very large, white and green.

What is the Greenbelt

Ontario's Greenbelt is an area of permanently protected green space, farmland, vibrant communities, forests, wetlands, and watersheds.

It surrounds the province's Golden Horseshoe – the most populated area of Canada, and is vital to the quality of life in southern Ontario. It's our protected countryside.

There are over 1.8 million acres in the Greenbelt – an area larger than Prince Edward Island. The Greenbelt includes the Niagara Escarpment, the Oak Ridges Moraine, and the Rouge Park.



The Greenbelt was created by legislation in February of 2005. The purpose of the Greenbelt is to protect key environmentally sensitive land and farmlands from urban development and sprawl. Taken from the Greenbelt website - <http://greenbelt.ca/>

Lisa Greig of Bruce County Tourism



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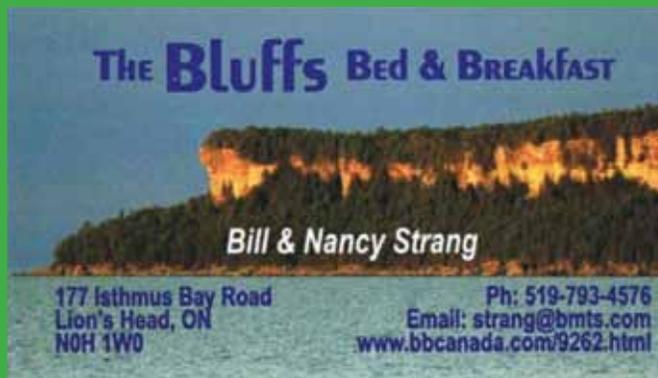
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Trail Mix

Hike Coordinator's Report Rattler Fall 2012

In the next couple of months we'll be mixing it up – on and off the trail!

If you ever wondered what a Land Steward does, come out on Sunday September 16th and hear from Bob and Anita how they monitor and care for the Bull Homestead property just north of Wiarton. The Bruce Trail Conservancy manages thousands of hectares of Escarpment land and is the largest program of its kind run by a non-government organization in Ontario's history.

Curious about yurting? In September, Harriet Nixon is hosting a meeting for the upcoming January 2013 yurt stay at MacGregor Park. Comfortable winter camping and an opportunity to hike, ski, snow shoe and skate in a beautiful Provincial Park setting. Also, closer to Christmas, Harriet will be

leading an Urban Walk of Wiarton during which we will have a chance to hear about the local history and architecture. There will be an optional lunch stop afterwards for something to eat and a hot beverage.

Back on the Bruce Trail, we will be finishing the last of Elaine's Easy Hikes as we enjoy mature forests, water views and fall colours. Also, in contrast to our Peninsula section favourites check out the Trek and Treat series of loops and linear hiking we'll be doing in the Sydenham section. These will not be far from home and therefore fairly easy to get to. Lunch is always a great motivator and dining out afterwards will be part of the experience when possible. Hope you are as excited as I am for the cooler hiking and the change in light and colour that fall brings to the area.

See you on the trail.....Susan Allen

Bruce Trail Optimum Route

The BTC's mission is "... to establish a conservation corridor containing a public footpath along the Niagara Escarpment ...". You may have read discussion in the BTC Annual Report of how much "Optimum Route" is secured – currently about 48%. (The balance of the trail is on private land, courtesy of the very-much appreciated permission of landowners, or on roads.)

Have you ever wondered HOW or WHO decides where this Optimum Route (OR) is? While the ideal may be near the escarpment edge, this is far from practical. In many areas the escarpment is developed, while in other areas the escarpment is unclear, broken down, or environmentally sensitive, making the OR very debatable. In fact the BTC Guidelines specify 43 criteria for maximizing the quality of the trail while protecting the environment. Often these OR criteria appear to conflict. For example: "traverse remote areas distant from roads" but "be within reasonable proximity of hiker amenities"; or "avoid steep slopes, poorly drained land or other areas where erosion, environmental damage and/or excessive trail maintenance would result". The OR is, of necessity, a highly confidential BTC planning document.

Acquisition of land to secure OR is co-ordinated by the BTC Land Securement Secretariat – a committee



of BTC staff and volunteers which reports to the BTC Board of Directors. Offers to purchase may be made if there is a willing seller and if there are sufficient funds available.

In the PBTC, our Land Management Committee provides input to the Land Securement Secretariat through our representative, Bill Graham. Over the last two years, our committee has reviewed the entire OR in the Wiarton to Tobermory area. Any changes that are made to OR begin with study of road and topographical maps, aerial photographs (thanks Google!), land ownership details and, with the landowners' permission, exploration of the land. Our recommendations are then forwarded by Bill to the BTC for review and approval.

If you have concerns about the Optimum Route you are welcome to contact Bill or myself.

John Whitworth

Looping Through Sydenham:

25 Short Walks and Hikes in Niagara Escarpment Country Between Walters Falls and Wiarton.
2nd edition (Revised and Enlarged). Sydenham Club, Bruce Trail Conservancy, 2012.

A great new 2nd edition for all hikers!

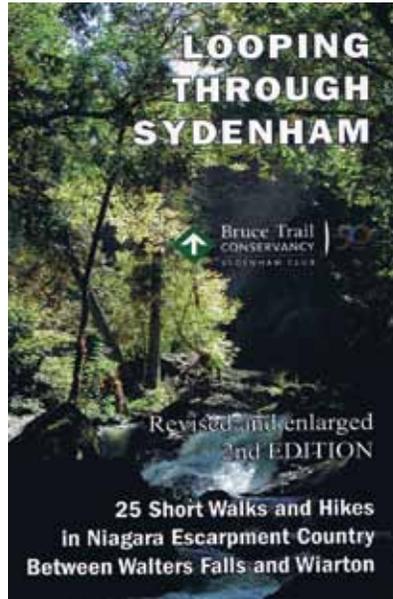
Approximately 170 km of the Bruce Trail winds its way through the Sydenham Club's section from Blantyre through Owen Sound to Wiarton.

In celebration of its 50th anniversary in 2012, the Sydenham Bruce Trail Club has published the 2nd edition of its highly regarded Looping Through Sydenham guide. Now updated and expanded to include 25 enjoyable walks with maps, notes and narratives, it is a handy pocket-sized reference.

Each hike description includes key details such as the trail length, the estimated time of completion, the degree of difficulty, access routes, and parking.

And beyond that, it explores the human and natural history of the area, such as nineteenth century mills, and the flora, fauna, ferns and fossils along the way.

All proceeds from the book will support the Bruce Trail Conservancy in its mission to secure in perpetuity a conservation corridor and public footpath along the Niagara Escarpment. *Escarpment Acquisition Fund*



Copies are available at local Owen Sound book stores or as far north as Tobermory.

Also, the BTC General Store has a limited number for sale.

Copies can be ordered by mail order from:

Bruce Price

bprice.ca@bmts.com

Sydenham Bruce Trail Club, c/o

Bruce Price,

Treasurer, P.O. Box 841, Owen Sound, ON N4K 5W9 (email is the preferred method of contacting Bruce.)

VISA / MSTDC/ cheque or money order - Cost: \$20 + postage and handling (Canada \$3; U.S. \$5; international \$8)

If more information about ordering is required, contact

Del Bonham 519-832-9473

One reader from "down south" sent in the following response:

"Really, honestly, before I read this trail guide, I didn't really 'get' the Sydenham section because I just don't know it very well. The trail guide really, truly does inspire me to get up there!"

"I want my next [vacation] to start this [week] so I can head up to [Sydenham for a day of loop hiking, and then another day of more loops!]"

Review by Linda Pim - a member of the Bruce Trail Conservancy who lives near the trail in Inglewood (Caledon Hills section).

Confession: I adore loop trails. On a return linear hike, your half-way point is self-evident. But on a loop, as you soak up nature along the way, the sense of distance can be a delicious mystery, especially on loops you haven't hiked before.

This new edition of Looping Through Sydenham, first published in 2006, is a gem of a trail guide. It recognizes 50 years since building the Bruce Trail began. Even more cause for celebration are the creation of new loops in the Sydenham section since 2006 and, thanks to the magnificent 69-kilometre Bayview Extension that opened in 2007. This guide has fewer space constraints than the BT Reference Guide, providing leisurely text with nuggets about the natural and cultural history of the land and water along each loop. You'll read where you're likely to find Hart's Tongue Fern, Walking Fern and fossils, as well as caves, potholes and other geological marvels plus some history of European settlement in this part of Grey County.

Several loops or side trails are named for volunteers have

played pivotal roles in the Bruce Trail, so we learn a bit about these luminaries.

For each loop, there is a clear map - the length and hiking time, difficulty, location, and suitability for skiing or snowshoeing.

I had previously hiked a couple of the Sydenham loops. While I would eagerly hike every loop, I have marked those that particularly appeal to me - Walters Falls, Bognor Marsh, Woodford Escarpment, Bayview Escarpment Nature Reserve, Sydenham Forest, Boyd Crevice, the Palisades, Frank Holley, Ron Savage, Ross McLean and Kemble Mountain.

The hiking experience has three elements - anticipation, through maps and descriptions; the hike itself; and memories, enjoyed through photographs and stories. 'Looping Through Sydenham' is invaluable for enriching both the anticipation and the hike. The beauty of this trail guide is that it will suit both someone wanting a short jaunt and the longer-distance, who can combine two, three or four loops for a full-day outing. Whichever, you will come away with a fuller appreciation of Ontario's beautiful Niagara Escarpment and all the people and planning that have kept it protected.

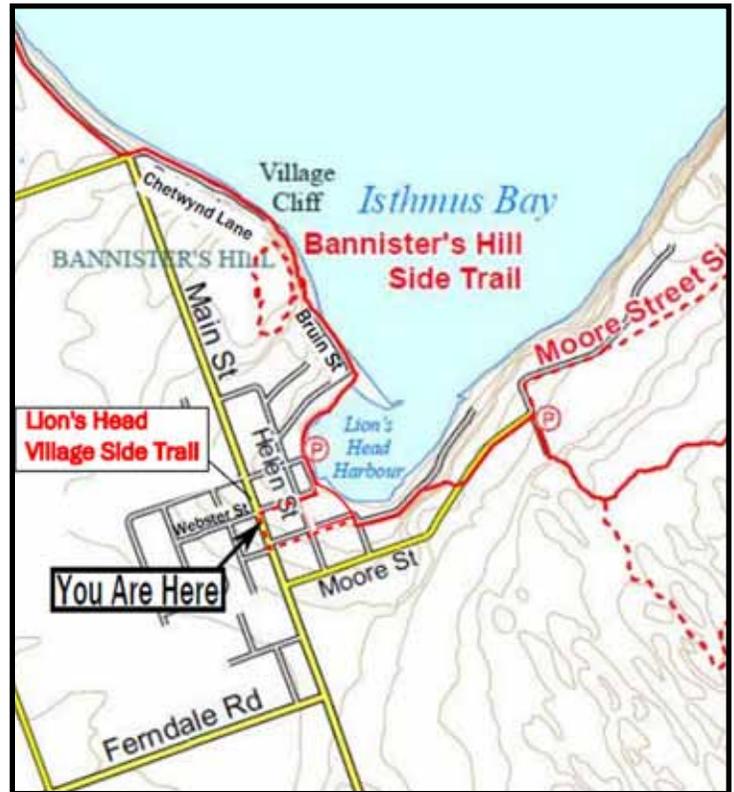
Peninsula Bruce Trail Club 2012 Fall and Early Winter Hike Schedule

Date and Time	Hike Name	Where to Meet	DoD	Km	Details
Tuesday September 11th 10:00 am	Elaine's Easy Hikes Devil's Monument & Minihinnick Side Trail Loop	Borchardt Rd. Parking Lot.	Strenuous	8	A lovely walk along the escarpment, lunch overlooking Georgian Bay, looping back through forest. Leader: Elaine Wassermann (519-795-7407)
Thursday September 13th 10:00 am	Trek and Treat Sydenham Loop	From Lake Charles - north on Centre Rd and east on Colpoys's Range Rd to where trail crosses	Moderate	7.9	The Chris Walker Loop (2.5 k) has fabulous views over Colpoys's Bay and the Slough of Despond Loop (5.4k) looks over a wetland and a raised beach. Bring Lunch. NOTE - Colpoys's Range Rd is very narrow and rough.
Sunday September 16th 1:00 pm	Land Stewardship Walk	Where Main Trail crosses County Rd 9 at bend atop south hill in Colpoys's Bay Village	Easy		Walk with the land stewards of the Bull Homestead and learn what the key stewardship issues are for the improvement, maintenance and/or protection of the property's features. Be prepared for tall grass. We will proceed even with rain. Contact Susan Allen (519-534-5898)
Thursday September 20th 10:00 am	Trek and Treat Sydenham Hikes (Car Shuttle)	North of Kemble on Kemble Rock Rd at bend on top of hill	Moderate	6.1	Kemble Mountain Linear with Nels Mehar Side Trail. Upland hardwood forest, silver maple swamp, Escarpment talus slope and open fields. Bring Lunch.
Sunday September 23rd 7:30 pm	Winter Yurtling - Planning Meeting				Anyone interested in a winter yurt camping weekend at MacGregor Point Provincial Park near Port Elgin is invited to an organizational meeting at the home of Harriet Nixon on Sunday, September 23 at 7:30 pm. The weekend is planned for January 25 to 27, 2013. The yurts need to be booked in September, due to their popularity. Anyone interested and not able to come to the meeting contact Harriet Nixon at 519-534-0426 or harrietnixon@bmts.com
Tuesday September 25th 10:00 am	Elaine's Easy Hikes Ise Hanel & Warder Side Trail	Moore St. and McCurdy Dr., Lion's Head	Moderate	7	A beautiful walk through a mature forest. Guest Leader: Rainer Hoffmann-Taylor (519-596-8359)
Thursday September 27th 10:00 am	Trek and Treat Sydenham Loop	From the hamlet of Wolseley travel east on Concession 20 to Lundy Lane. Follow the white blazes along this dead-end road.	Moderate	5.3	Ross McLean Loop (3k) includes an incredible crevice-cave network after which we drive to the the Lindenwood Loop (2.3k) which has a butternut tree, erratics and an alvar. Restaurant for lunch.
Thursday October 4th 10:00 am	Trek and Treat Sydenham Loop	At the Harrison Park Inn, Harrison Park	Moderate	6	Harrison Park and the Pallisades. Restaurant for lunch.
Wednesday October 10th 10:00 am	Elaine's Easy Hikes Purple Valley Walk	From County Rd. 9, turn East onto Purple Valley Rd., continue straight onto Wright's Crescent. Park at Purple Valley Access Tr.	Easy	3	From several lookouts along the escarpment, we enjoy the autumnal palette below and the Georgian Bay islands beyond Colpoys's Bay. Guest Leader: Rainer Hoffmann-Taylor (519-596-8359)
Thursday October 11th 10:00 am	Trek and Treat Sydenham Loop	Hwy 26 east of Owen Sound to 8th Conc N. North for 1 km	Moderate	4.6	Clearview Loop (2.8k) and the Pines Loop (1.8k). We will visit the famous Polish Soldier Tree. Restaurant for lunch.
Thursday October 18th 10:00 am	Trek and Treat Sydenham Loop	Hwy 26 east of Owen Sound at the Woodford Community Centre	Moderate	4.5	Crevice Springs Loop (1.5k) and Woodford Loop (3k). Moonshine and memories. Restaurant for lunch.
Wednesday October 24th 11:00 am	Elaine's Easy Hikes Jackson's Cove Lookout	Bruce County Rd. 9 to Hopeness Rd., turn Right on Jackson's Cove Rd., Park at the top of the hill.	Moderate	5	Start with walk along the escarpment then we loop back through deciduous forest where Christmas ferns are abundant. Leader: Elaine Wassermann (519-795-7407).
Thursday December 6th 10:00 am	Urban Hike - Wiarton Perimeter	Tim Horton's Wiarton	Moderate	8.5	Combined Peninsula & Sydenham Club hike. Leashed dogs welcome. Optional lunch at Tim Horton's afterwards. Contact Harriet Nixon (519 534 0426) harrietnixon@bmts.com

The Sydenham hikes were planned with help from the 2nd edition of the Looping Through Sydenham book. Contact Susan Allen 519 534 5898 re Trek and Treat information

Lion's Head Village Side Trail

For a number of years, the section of main trail passing through the village of Lion's Head was hidden to the casual visitor. A common question fielded by local merchants was, "Where's the trail?" So it was decided to pursue permission from the municipality to pick a route that was more visible. The main trail would be rerouted through the campground, because that kept it within view of the water, but the side trail would bypass it and go down the main street. That way, people would see the blue blazes as they passed through and access to the main trail would be obvious. This coincided with a fortunate county initiative called "Spruce the Bruce" which made money available for community improvements. The side trail will pass an interpretive kiosk and a miniature flowerpot. Now, when a tourist asks a merchant the question, the answer will be, *"You're on it"*.



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written by Bridget Boyle
Happy 13th birthday Bridget you rock!!!!

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Recognizing Our Donors

This may or may not be a unique story but I know that very few landowners have actually made two property donations to the BTC. We would like to recognize the Knapp family and particularly Bob and Marie for their recent generous donation of property.

The management plan describes the property as follows: "The Knapp property is located in the south eastern region of the Bruce Peninsula on the western side of Georgian Bay, and lies approximately 21 km north of the town of Wiarton. The property is 4.9 hectares (12.17 acres), contains 170.4 m of main trail, 299.4 m of Side Trail and will be managed by the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club."

As for every managed property, the management plan is based upon at least three inventory visits by our ecologists and other background research into the biophysical nature of this area. The report includes the results of the biophysical inventory and maps detailing the vegetative communities and cultural features.



The plan goes on to describe the features of the site: "The Knapp property consists of three vegetation communities which fall within the following categories: Deciduous Forest (4.5 ha), Talus slope (0.43 ha) and Cliff (< 0.5 ha). The forested property sits atop classic Escarpment bedrock with the most significant and noticeable features on the property being the crevices and karst-like features which have sculpted the landscape and small cliff."

The biodiversity of the property reflects the amazing variety

we amateurs often miss on our hikes and is summarized as: "The Knapp property is fairly isolated from outside pressures and has a minimal presence of invasive species. The property supports 143 documented species, including 125 plant species and 18 animal species."

Bob and Marie are long time active volunteers and supporters of both Peninsula Club and Sydenham Club. We are very grateful for your generosity.

Don McIlraith, Past President

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IVAN WHITE - "A GREAT GUY TO WORK WITH"*

This past winter, on Leap Year's marker date, February 29, Lion's Head lost someone whose presence had seemed, for so long, to permeate the village in an aura of warmth, good intentions (scrupulously carried through), reassurance, humour and kindness. Ivan White had, in his living, earned the respect and love of so many people who gathered to say good-bye then, and in the days and weeks that followed.

He and his four brothers grew up in Lion's Head where in 1928 their Dad had bought the garage that still bears the family name. Ivan was born in 1935 and from his early childhood claimed the Peninsula as a love in his life, as he discovered it bit by bit; from childhood, roaming the shore to swim off the rocks at the point with the other kids, later fishing Wingfield Basin in the summers with his Uncle Emery, ice fishing in winter, woodcutting with farmers and others in the cliff-top forests. After four years "continuation" school -- high school-- in Lion's Head, his working life took him in a number of interesting directions, with increasing responsibility: a three year stint in the Air Force (Europe) in training in gunnery; then a period of eight years with Bell Canada; finally nearly 30 years at Bruce Nuclear, part of the commissioning team for Douglas Point and as supervisor on the computers for fuelling machines. All this led to a position in India, 1970-'72, again commissioning a nuclear plant.

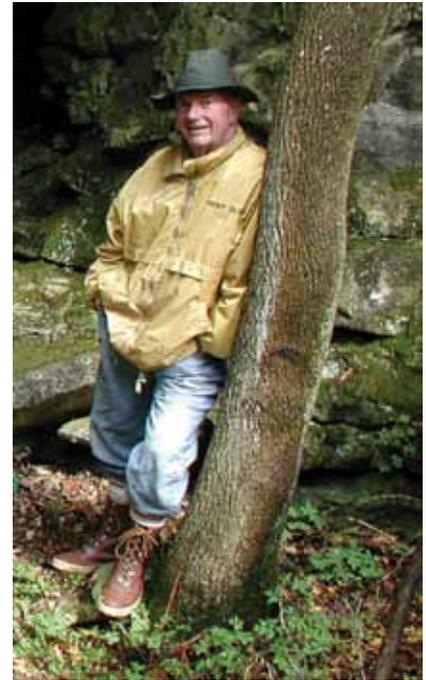
Meanwhile in 1959 he had married Elaine Bowden and so it was that the time in India became a family affair, as their two children, Mary Heather and Mark, were with them; and indeed, perhaps as a result of this, roaming and working in distant places such as India (again), Egypt and China became part of their history.

All in all, they were away from Lion's Head for about twenty-five years; then, returning to the village, they bought the old Butchart house on Main Street and offered bed and breakfast there for twelve years.

"Retirement" in 1986 opened the door for a whole new life in which all Ivan's latent interests and powers were able to assert themselves. He became involved in community affairs -- Chair of the Board of Home and Community Support Services (himself a driver for Meals on Wheels), treasurer for the United Church and for the Friendship Club, and one of the founders of the Men's Breakfast Club. He had time now for all the personal things he cared about -- for woodwork, and for renovation, and the designing of their present house in its lakeside situation, and for much of the work within it; also working on his much loved 100 acre bush lot north of Ferndale; and for pure leisure where he could read to his heart's content.

However, one of his greatest satisfactions had been in the growth and development of the Bruce Trail, and now he took much joy in actually hiking on it. He would take Elaine whenever possible, always assuring her, if she asked the length of a hike, that it was "not very long..." (when it might well turn out to be three hours!) Not only did he satisfy his own obsession to do the trail end-to-end, but he took with him, as his companion, his brother Carmen, who needed all the help he could get, as he was legally blind. Ivan guided him along every inch of the way from Tobermory to Queenston, even though it took them five seasons to do it!

Ivan was really a "hands-on" man. By the time we started to hike with him, Alzheimers had already started



to stake out its claim. Nevertheless he was a great person to make part of our small team of trail workers; George Bowman, Russell, myself. Ivan was so comfortable, such fun to be with -- agreeable, light-hearted, easy going, yet we seemed to manage quite a lot of trail maintenance as our time flew by. We would sit in a row on a log for our lunch break, engaging in interesting, varied and light-hearted conversation -- Ivan's sense of humour never seemed to disappear - and then the four of us, and Tirzah our dog, would set forth again with renewed energy. (Ivan liked our dog: a big plus in our eyes!)

So this is how Russell and I really came to know him. I wish now, that while we had always been aware of his cheerful presence around the village, we had known this interesting, impressive man much, much earlier in the richness of the life that now lay behind him.

* This was the comment on so many of the letters Elaine received in condolence.

Katharine and Russell Ferguson

**Peninsula Bruce Trail Club
2012 Annual Birding Walk**
Lead by Ray Rothenbury



There were 16 birding enthusiasts this year to participate in the annual walk/drive in the Dyer's Bay area. We were blessed with fine weather and good light as we worked our way from Dyer's Bay Dock around the concession block of Bartley Drive, Lindsay Rd. 40, Crane Lake Road, and Dyer's Bay Rd. We would like to especially thank Bill Hansen and Mike Marshall for lending their birding expertise to our outing. Bill generously provided his scope for some excellent waterbird viewing from the Dyer's Bay Dock. Bill mentioned that he had seen a Red Headed Woodpecker that morning...and voila, there he was in all his splendor, giving us fabulous looks as he flew from perch to perch at the dock. This bird turned out to be the 'Bird of the Day'; although the Sandhill Crane parents and their two young were a close second. Mike was our walking birding encyclopedia and was amazing with his sight and sound identification skills. Thanks to both of you.

The following is the final sighting list of the 43 species we identified:
Common Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Turkey Vulture, Canada Goose, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Common Merganser, Ruffed Grouse, Sandhill Crane (parents and 2 young), Spotted Sandpiper, Common Snipe, Ring-billed Gull, Rock Dove, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Red-headed Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Kingbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, House Wren, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Chipping Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Baltimore Oriole, American Goldfinch
Again this year, another highlight was the sighting of a black bear sow and her two cubs. We were all having our picnic lunch in the sunshine at the Warder Ranch and spotted mama bear and the two young way across Crane Lake on the hillside. She roams the area every year and we often wonder if she is Ronda, or a descendent. Parks Canada undertook a bear study years ago and each bear was named. The Warder Ranch area was home to Ronda.

* * * * *

McCurdy Parking Lot Expansion

If you have hiked the Lions Head trails this season you will have noticed the McCurdy Parking lot is double the size it was originally. The funding for this project was provided by a grant of \$2500 from the Bruce County 'Spruce The Bruce' initiative. This allows this lot to accommodate the substantial number of cars we frequently see there on a summer weekend. Many thanks to the County of Bruce for this support.

At Right: Past President Don McIlraith and Jack Van Dorp of Bruce County Tourism



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2012 OUTDOOR FESTIVAL!

Mark your calendars now for this year's Hiking/Outdoors Festival September 28-30, held in and around the National Park Visitor Centre in Tobermory. The Festival's theme, "Take a Walk on the Wild Side" is a nod to our great fortune in being able to get up close and personal with truly wild and pristine places. We also return this year to a focus on hiking itself – so you will see more events that put you in boots out on the trails.

The festival will follow the full-weekend format: an evening of entertainment on Friday, a full schedule of events on Saturday morning and afternoon including a packed lunch followed by the always popular wine and cheese and a special speaker. Participants may register for the complete schedule (the two evening presentations, Saturday morning and afternoon, lunch and wine and cheese) for \$50 (for early registration, \$60 otherwise) or for individual events at \$15 each.

The Saturday daytime events are filled on a first-come-first-serve basis so you will be asked to indicate first, second and third choices.

The Friday evening presentation will feature story tellers in an informal setting. In honour of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Bruce Peninsula National Parks the Saturday evening speaker will be Bob Day, author of the recently published book "Shores of Heaven: the birth of Bruce Peninsula National Parks".

The traditional after-the-festival Bruce Trail Day hike, open to all free of charge, will celebrate recently acquired properties south of Dyers Bay and will feature hikes of two different lengths.

For details and registration forms please go to the PBTC website (www.pbtc.ca).

For general enquiries please contact festival registrar John Greenhouse, preferably by email at: hikefest@eastlink.ca or at home 519-596-2081.



We Count on Our Dedicated Volunteers



These volunteers enjoyed the hard work and team effort required to reroute the trail at Dyer's Bay.



South Peel Naturalists' Club's 'Red Bay Weekend'

Bill McIlveen

Every year, members of the South Peel Naturalists' Club (SPNC) have made an annual spring trek to the Bruce. That activity was started by Madeline Richards in 1969. She was inspired by her attendance at the two-week camp held by the Federation of Ontario Naturalists in the previous year.

That first year, eleven SPNC members participated. Numbers of participants over the years varied with some years involving as many as 80 participants in the now well-established 'Red Bay Weekend' at the end of every May. In recent years, the numbers are more typically in the range of 25 to 45.

Most people stay at the Evergreen Resort, Red Bay where the Bennett family have welcomed everyone for most of the years that the event has been held. The lodge is known for its fine hospitality and tasty food. The Friday night treat with sticky buns is well-known and appreciated to all that stay at the lodge.

Typically, the participants divide up into two main groups. One is focused on seeing as many bird species as possible anywhere on the Bruce Peninsula during the weekend. The other group takes a more general approach to nature watching of plants, insects, animals, and geology but they don't neglect to look at any birds that they come upon during their travels. Although there are some favoured places to look for things (e.g. Black Terns at Sky Lake or orchids at Singing Sands for example), visits are made to different places from year to year.

The 'Weekend' in 2012 was held on the weekend of May 25 to May 27 and this represents the 44th consecutive year that the Club has held the event. The head count for 2012 was 29 persons. The preliminary bird species tally for this year was 124. For the botanists, the Yellow and Ram's head Lady's slippers were in particularly fine form for the weekend. There is every reason to suspect that the tradition will continue next year and in many more years to come.

Below: Dryad Saddle emerging from Maple stump



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Peninsula Bruce Trail Club Hiking/Outdoor Festival 2012

Walk on the Wild Side

September 28 to 30 Schedule of Events

Welcome to the 9th annual Hiking and Outdoors Festival. This year, we propose that you join us for a "Walk on the Wild Side" as we enjoy access to places very near to those classified by Parks Canada as true "wilderness" - right here on the Bruce Peninsula.

While we are enjoying the gift of wilderness, we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Bruce Peninsula National Park and begin a series of 50th Anniversary celebrations for Bruce Trail clubs as well. And speaking of gifts, we also celebrate a wonderful tradition of giving that affords the Bruce Trail Conservancy further opportunity to secure and preserve the optimum trail route for future generations.

Pre-registration is required for most events as many will sell out in advance.

Go to www.PBTC.ca for a printable registration form.

Friday, September 28, 2012

1:00 pm - Flowerpot Tour – extra fee for boat crossing

A hike on Flowerpot Island for those who want to start the weekend early

5:30 pm to 7:00 pm - Registration at the Parks Canada Visitors Centre

Pick up your registration packages, catch up with old friends and meet some new ones

7:30 pm - STORY TELLING: In-town location TBA

Wild weird and wondrous tales of the local trails and waters as told by various peninsula characters

Saturday, September 29, 2012

MORNING ACTIVITIES

7:30 am – Registration at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre

9:00 am to 12:00 pm - Little Cove to Tobermory Hike

Meet at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre - a bus will drive us to Little Cove to begin the hike

This 7.4 km hike is an easy to moderate hike ending at the Visitor Centre and, if you choose, continuing to the Cairn in Tobermory. The trail takes you through forests, apple orchards, meadows, past a golf course and cemetery and along the rocky shores of Georgian Bay.

8:00 am to 12:00 pm - Cyprus Lake to Little Cove

Meet at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre - a bus will drive us to Cyprus Lake to begin the hike

This 12 km hike is strenuous and covers rough terrain and is for the fast and fit if it is to be completed in less than 4 hours. At Little Cove a bus will pick us up to return to the Parks Canada Visitor Centre for lunch.

9:00 am to 12:00 pm - Bird Hike - Meet at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre

Join a Parks Canada expert for a walk in the woods where the wild things live. Bring binoculars and cameras.

9:00 am to 12:00 pm- Mini-Multisport Competitive Event - Meet at Big Tub Lodge

Bring your competitive spirit over to Big Tub Lodge where you'll try your hand at Stand-up Paddleboarding, then cycle and run for fame and glory in the Hiking/Outdoor festival's first-ever competition event.

Entrants will need to bring a bike; paddleboards will be supplied. Please arrive early for check-in and marshalling. Try to carpool with fellow competitors as parking is limited.

9:00 am to 12:00 pm- A Walk on the Wild (West) Side I - Meet at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre

Park lands between Hwy 6 and Dorcas Bay have not been explored by previous festivals.

Sturdy waterproof boots recommended.

AND ALSO ...though it is not an official event of our Festival some people may want to take part in the Opening Ceremony and First Hike of the Cotswold Way Friendship Trail taking place this morning just south of Lion's Head. Please see page 8 of the Fall 2012 Bruce Trail Magazine for details. And be sure to come on up to Tobermory for the afternoon and/or evening events.

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

1:00 pm to 4:30 pm *NOTE EARLY START* - Rock Ramble to Bootleggers' Cave

Meet at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre

Follow Sheila and Jeff Buckingham deep into the crevices and crannies among the boulders strewn along the shore above Halfway Log Dump. This is more than a hike as minor caving, climbing and crawling are involved; please be advised that it is a very tough route. Wear sturdy boots, bring extra water but not poles.

We will carpool to this event.

1:30 pm to 4:30 pm - Tree Identification Hike - Meet at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre

Come into the woods and learn to see the trees for the forest as explained by a Parks Canada Naturalist with know-how.

1:30 pm to 4:30 pm - Parks Canada 25th Anniversary Celebration Loop

Meet at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre

Enjoy a relaxing hike showcasing some of the Park's brightest gems. This will be a carpool event.

1:30 pm to 4:30 pm - Saunter at Singing Sands

Meet at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre for this easy hike

Join a Parks Canada Naturalist for a stroll around the trails and board walk at Singing Sands to learn more about this sensitive and unique habitat.. Bring your binoculars for some birding along the trail.

1:30 pm to 4:30 pm - A Walk on the Wild (West) Side II

Meet at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre

As with the morning walk (Part 1) this walk will explore the Park lands west of Hwy 6. GPS navigation and cache location will be featured. Sturdy waterproof boots recommended.

Saturday Evening

7:00 pm - Wine and Cheese Reception - At the Parks Canada Visitor Centre

Partake in refreshments, share your own tales of the trails and visit with two local authors. Wilmer Nadjiwon, famed 'Indian Carver' and former Chief of the Chippewas of Nawash and Bob Day (see below) will be on hand to discuss and sign their recent books.

7:45 pm - Lillie Property Land Deed Presentation

(see page 9 of the Fall 2012 Bruce Trail Magazine for the story of this donation).

At the Parks Canada Visitor Centre Theatre

8:00 pm - SHORES OF HEAVEN - At the Parks Canada Visitor Centre Theatre

The PBTC, in Partnership with the Sources of Knowledge Forum, are pleased to present Bob Day, author and former Superintendent of Bruce Peninsula National Park/Fathom Five National Marine Park, speaking on the birth of the Bruce Peninsula National Parks.

Sunday, September 30, 2012

The Bruce Trail Day Hike will start from the Dyers Bay Parking Lot at 9:00 am

This year the event will celebrate three major contributions to the Bruce Trail, all with a Michigan connection. *The first stop* will be at the Michiganders Plaque, recognizing the large donation of land last year by a group of Michigan residents. *Next* we will stop at the intersection of the newly designated Ann and Clayton Roberts Side Trail. The Roberts, also Michigan residents, are long time Dyers Bay summer residents and have worked tirelessly over the years on nearby trail sections. *Finally* we will explore the new trails on the Lillie Property and visit the future site of the plaque that will mark this donation. All this of course on what many consider the most scenic part of the entire Bruce Trail.

From the Lillie property there will be an opportunity to head back to the parking lot via Britain Lake Road or to continue on to the Devil's Monument and return via the Minhinnick Side Trail.

Something New !!!!

A pilot, public transit is coming to the beautiful Bruce Peninsula between Aug 31 - Sept 16.
Toronto - Bruce Peninsula depart Fridays return Sundays start August 31st three round trips trial run.



PICKUP TIMES

Toronto - Bruce Peninsula
 York Mills 7:05 am
 30 Carlton Street 7:35 am
 Dufferin and Bloor 7:50 am

Bruce Peninsula - Toronto
 MS Chi-Cheemaun Ferry Terminal 2:00 pm
 Town of Tobermory Bruce Peninsula N.P. 2:15 pm
 Cyprus Lake Campground 2:35 pm
 Lion's Head 3:20 pm

TICKETS

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January 26 to February 2, 2013

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ISRAEL

March 9 to 23, 2013

Fascinating and complex, Israel offers immense diversity. Hike the lush vineyards of the Golan Heights & the deep canyons of the Judean Desert, plus the famed Jesus Trail from Nazareth to the Sea of Galilee. We shall visit Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, Masada, Bethlehem and Tel Aviv, and although this holiday is not religious by design, we cannot help but be immersed in the dominant role it has played for centuries.

CORFU, GREECE

May 12 to 25, 2013

This Greek island is the perfect combination of European flare and tranquil sea-side living. Hike to the heavens to visit holy monasteries and trek in shade of ancient olive groves. We promise - you will never tire of the deep, deep blue of the sea that surrounds you. Opa!

IRELAND

June 11 to 21, 2013

With more shades of green than you can imagine, the Emerald Isle lives up to its deserving reputation. From historical Dublin to picturesque Killarney & parts in between, we will take you hiking through some of the most sought-after scenery the country has to offer - and we'll even make a few pub stops along the way!

SHORES OF HEAVEN

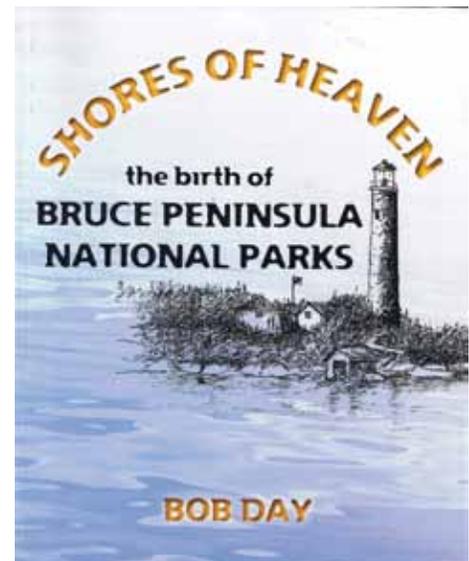
Shores of Heaven is primarily the story of the creation of the National Parks at the tip of the Bruce Peninsula and of the people who helped make it happen. The author, Bob Day, was the first superintendent. Perhaps even more importantly, he worked with the local community in the first half of the 1980's to realize the acceptance of the park in St Edmunds Township. Shores of Heaven is primarily his story of those tumultuous days.

The book is important to document the process by which the National Parks were established. It should be of interest to anyone who loves the treasures of the Niagara Escarpment and who wishes to see its lands secured in perpetuity. For many hikers, the beauty of the Escarpment in the National Park is the highlight of their journey.

The Foreword is written by Don Scott, chair of the Niagara Escarpment Commission. He refers to the "tumultuous time on the Bruce

Peninsula where government mistrust and the economic and environmental future of this unique area of Canada waged, at times, a dangerous feud." Among the stories told by Bob is the effigy hung from a beam in a wilderness cabin with the name of Bob Day written across it, and the time when he was shot at while hiking near Loon Lake and had to bite the dust of the Bruce Trail as he scrambled to avoid the bullets.

But the process of consultation and compromise resulted in the successful achievement of two National Parks, as Don writes, "a rather good example of planning and public consultation by, surprisingly, the federal government, through one of its more able servants." The book also pays tribute to local grassroots leadership as provided by Brad Davis, Milt Hayes, Tom Adams and Murray Robins. Credit is also paid to other key principals such as Gord Cottrill. One chapter is devoted to the Bruce Trail with the story of both its birth and also its mission and mandate to secure Escarpment country.



Ordering information:

The book was self-published and is available at bookstores in Tobermory and Owen Sound.

The quickest and cheapest way to order it via mail is through Bob personally: call 519-376-8773 or email at: bobday@wightman.ca. The cost including shipping and handling (Canada Post) is \$25.00

From Kindle, you can obtain an electronic copy for \$9.99.

Review by Ed Doadt "Shores of Heaven: The Birth of Bruce Peninsula National Parks" **by Bob Day** Privately published, May 2012

In 1952, Dr Sherwood Fox published The Bruce Beckons, a book that revealed the secret wonders of Ontario's Bruce Peninsula to a much wider reading audience. More recently, former Parks Canada superintendent Bob Day has written an equally compelling book, Shores of Heaven: The Birth of Bruce Peninsula National Parks, which recounts the process that led to the creation of both Bruce Peninsula National Park and Fathom Five National Marine Park.

Bob's connections to the Bruce and to parks in general goes back a long way; he was there for all of the discussions, deliberations and consultations that led to the signing of the agreement to open the Parks in Tobermory in 1987. -

Illustrated with sketches by Patric Ryan, and supplemented with materials from others such as Gord Cottrill, Ross McLean and reflections from members of the National Parks Study Committee, the book also reviews the consultative work done with the First Nations on the peninsula. -

- In his foreward to the book, Niagara Escarpment Commission chair Don Scott sets the context for early park

liberations "...tumultuous time on the Bruce Peninsula where government mistrust and the economic and environmental future of this unique area of Canada waged, at times, a dangerous feud." - Bob's book describes the "bottom-up" process that was used to consult and then create the two National Parks on the peninsula, a process that was initiated in December 1981 by an announcement from Federal Minister of the Environment, John Roberts. While Bob's insight and "personality" both shine throughout the book, he also credits the work of local politicians & Parks staff members, The story touches both the highs and lows of the process of establishing the parks, including the park study area boundary adjustment as a result of the decision of Lindsay Township residents to not support the establishment of a national park in their area and the tragic loss of Driftwood Cove. Bob also shares some intensely personal incidents that occurred during the time leading up to the creation of the park. This book is clearly a "must read" for anyone with a fascination for the Bruce Peninsula, especially if you are interested in how national parks come into being. - (Ed Doadt is a veteran Bruce Trail member and a long-standing chair of the National Park Advisory Committee for the Bruce Peninsula Parks.)

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Tell us a story about it and maybe you will see it in the Rattler.

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