

The Heron October, 2014

Upcoming Club Meeting: Monday, October 27, 2014 7:30 pm visitors welcome

Wing 404/Rotary Adult Centre 510 Dutton Drive, Waterloo

On October 27th, please welcome our guest speaker: Mary Ann Vanden Elzen 80th Anniversary of the KWFN

Who were the founders of the club?

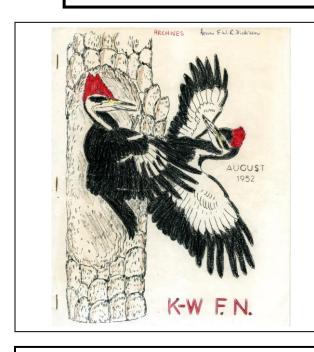
Have meetings always been held at Wing 404?

How did the club come to own property?

Was there always a Heron newsletter?

How many familiar faces from the past will you recognize?

Find out the answers to these questions, and much more, at the October club meeting.





IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The KWFN Board of Directors has passed a resolution that we will henceforth produce a Fall, Winter and Spring edition of The Heron. Effective immediately the submission schedule will be as follows:

Fall Issue – August 10th Winter Issue – November 10th Spring Issue – March 10th This issue of The Heron contains:

NOTICE OF SPECIAL
GENERAL MEETING of the
Members of the KWFN
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Proxy Form-on page 7

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Submission deadlines are on or before the 10th of August, November and March.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

November 24, 2014

Brendon Larson, Redefining our Relationship to Nature

> 7:00 - 9:30 pm 2014 Celebration of Nature

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Outings and Events

Schneider's Woods

Dale Ingrey 519-884-3667

Meeting Time/Place: Tuesday, October 7 at 9:00am at Wideman Road and Wilmot Line in Waterloo

Join Dale for a leisurely fall hike through the woods and hills of Schneider's Woods. We'll try to spot some late fall migrants as well as the resident birds, and whatever else happens to be in the area. We'll also see the trees, asters and goldenrods, etc. in their autumn splendour. Bring binoculars, field guides and a drink for this approximately two hour hike. We'll meet and park on Wideman Road just east of the Wilmot Line.

Laurentian Wetlands

Fraser Gibson 519-576-9287

Meeting Time/Place: Thursday, Oct 23, at 9:30 am at Sunrise Centre (corner of Fischer Hallman and Ottawa) in the Home Depot parking lot closest to Caseys.

This 22 acre wetland is one of the City of Kitchener's natural areas. The 55 acre parcel containing the wetland is now surrounded by commercial and residential development. Very little walking is involved but a few vantage points will be visited. Bring your scope(if available) and binoculars for some easy viewing.

North shore of Lake Erie

Jim & Ken Burrell <u>burrellsc@golden.net</u>

Meeting Time/Place: Saturday, Oct 25 at 8:00am at the Fountain St. carpool lot just south of Hwy.401

Join us for a full day ramble through southern Ontario to look for late raptor migrants and others. We will visit the Long Point area, Hawk Cliff, Port Stanley, etc. Be sure to bring binos, scopes, field guides, lunches and energy. The weather is unpredictable so be prepared for anything

Emptying the Skies, a new documentary is a must see for anyone who cares about birds.

Screening Nov 14th to Nov 18th at The Original Princess Cinema, 6 Princess St. W., Waterloo.

http://filmswelike.com/films/emptyingtheskies/index.html

PRESIDENT'S CORNER David Gacoigne

Summer is drawing to a close and we are all no doubt gearing up for another year of fellowship within our Club. As I write this message, our first meeting of your Board of Directors will be held tonight so we will be right back into it! For several members of the board it will be their first meeting as new directors and I have no doubt that they will be filled with vigour and enthusiasm as we move this Club forward.

It distressed me greatly to read a recent report that indicates that the world's virgin forests are being lost at an increasing rate and that the largest portion of the degradation is in Canada. We have surpassed Brazil in the rate of of forest destruction, "Canada is number one in the world for the total area of the loss of intact forest landscapes since 2000," according to Peter Lee of Forest Watch Canada. It is a staggering indictment of the state of our commitment as a nation to the preservation of our natural heritage and an ongoing ethic to protect nature in all its diversity. It behoves all of us to rededicate ourselves to the stewardship of nature and of wilderness and to do everything within our power to effect a shift in the kinds of policies that have enabled this nightmare to occur.

A meeting is going to take place on 4 October to discuss the proposal to create a Waterloo Region Land Trust. I plan to attend this meeting and several other members of our club have already indicated their intention to take part. I would urge any of you who have the time to participate in this forum to do so. It may well be that when we look back on that date in years to come it will have proven to be a watershed moment in local conservation. Given its long history in our community and its commitment to natural areas, KWFN has much expertise to draw on in helping local governments to achieve the right balance in inaugurating a land trust. I have no doubt that we will be foremost in the embryonic stages of this project.

Recently I have been seeing more Monarchs than I have seen in recent years, and while there are no trees festooned with them, as was often commonplace in times past, there does appear to be crack of optimism showing through the gloom of the

dire predictions of the total demise of this portion of the Monarch's historical realm. Yesterday, in a field of Goldenrod there were many Monarchs feeding and Common Eastern Bumblebees seemed to be everywhere, all laden with impressive pollen loads. Now if the authorities would just ban those neonicotinoids!

Our club will be hosting the next regional meeting of Ontario Nature on 1 November and we are honoured to do so. We are a staunch and dedicated member of this umbrella group of naturalists' clubs and regional meetings always provide an opportunity to hear what other clubs are doing, and we are all able to benefit from each others activities and experiences.

In closing may I thank all of you for your support and the good wishes for a productive year that several of you have expressed to me. I appreciate every kind word and I am looking forward to making sure that 2014-2015 is a great year for our Club.

Membership Director's Report Carol Foxall

Please renew your membership for the 2014 -15 membership year before it expires on October 31st. If you have already renewed, thank you! If you haven't renewed yet please give your renewal form and payment to the membership director at the September or October meeting, or mail them to the address on the form. Application forms were mailed with the September Heron to members for whom we do not have an email address. Everyone else received their renewal notice via email. This email contains a link to the printable membership form on our website. This form can also be reached from our website (www.kwfn.ca) by selecting the Membership box, clicking on the Membership Form quick link, then clicking again on the underlined Membership Form text.

Welcome New Members!

Francine Gilbert and Jim Huffman



Ontario Nature Report Fraser Gibson

ESA Lawsuit Hearing Scheduled for January 14-15

In September 2013, Ontario Nature and Wildlands League sued the Ontario government over its decision to exempt major threats to species at risk from the province's Endangered Species Act (ESA). The hearing on the lawsuit is scheduled for January 14-15, 2015; Ecojustice is providing legal counsel. Thank you for your continued support with this important campaign. For more information, contact Caroline Schultz at carolines@ontarionature.org.

Youth Council Launches Pollinator Campaign

Ontario Nature's Youth Council has initiated a campaign to protect Ontario's pollinators. In May, Youth Council members delivered 1,200+ signed postcards to Queen's Park asking Premier Wynne to restrict the use of neonicotinoids, the harmful insecticides known to severely affect bee populations. They followed up in July with an open letter to the Premier updating their request to a complete ban on these pesticides in Ontario. The Youth Council is currently working on the next phase of the campaign. To learn more about what they're planning, visit the pollinator campaign webpage.

Rouge National Park On Hold

In early September the Ontario government threatened to withhold its 5,400 acres from the proposed Rouge National Urban Park over environmental concerns.

Queen's Park controls about two-thirds of the land in the proposed Rouge National Urban Park, the federal government owning most of the remaining third of the land. The Rouge, unlike other national parks, is not a wilderness area. Instead, parts are occupied by tenant farmers and in some places, private landowners. The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority owns a large area within the proposed park boundary. The 700-acre Toronto Zoo property is a nearby landmark.

Infrastructure Minister Brad Duguid warned that Ottawa's legislation (Bill C-40) creating the urban park did not provide enough ecological protections. "If . . . amendments are not made, I cannot support recommending steps to enable the contribution of 5,400 acres for the simple reason that I feel this land will be better protected if it remains with the province of Ontario," said Duguid.

Federal Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq insists their legislation will strengthen environmental protections over what exists currently.

Ontario Nature, Nature Canada, Environmental Defence, the David Suzuki Foundation, Sierra Club Canada, Friends of the Rouge Watershed, the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Wildlands League, and the Save the Oak Ridges Moraine Coalition all support Duguid's decision.

That's because "the draft federal legislation does not prioritize ecological integrity in park management and it does not honour a January 2013 memorandum of agreement signed between Parks Canada and the Ontario government requiring written park policies that 'meet or exceed provincial policies.' "

Ontario Nature - Great Lakes West Fall Regional Meeting

KWFN will host the next Regional Meeting, which will be held:

Saturday November 1 10:00 am to approximately 3:00 pm Laurel Creek Nature Centre.

This is an excellent opportunity to learn a little more about Ontario Nature's regional structure, hear about the activities of other clubs in our region and be updated on Ontario Nature activities. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet other naturalists and share ideas among our network.

Members are welcome to attend this meeting. Please contact Fraser Gibson 519-576-9287 fn.qib@sympatico.ca by October 24th if you are interested in attending.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE MEMBERS OF KITCHENER-WATERLOO FIELD NATURALISTS

Notice in accordance with Bylaw 1 Articles 24.3 and 25 is hereby given that a special general meeting of the members of the Kitchener-Waterloo Field naturalists will be convened on

Monday, 27th October 2014 at 7:30 pm at Wing 404/Rotary Centre hall, 510 Dutton Drive, Waterloo, Ontario

for the purpose of considering the following motion:

Bylaw 2:

Be it enacted as a bylaw of the Kitchener-Waterloo Field Naturalists (The Corporation) that

Article 1 – Operating Name

1.1 Operations of the corporation shall be under the name "Waterloo Region Nature".

Passage of this motion requires a two-thirds vote of the members present at the meeting or represented by proxy (Bylaw 1, Article 31.1).

The quorum for this meeting is seventy (70) members or twenty five percent (25%) of the total membership, whichever is less, present in person or represented by proxy (Bylaw 1, Article 27).

PROXY FORM:

A proxy form is appended below, or can be downloaded from the KWFN web site at www.kwfn.ca. The form is to be mailed to the

corporation Secretary whose address is on the form, or handed to the Secretary prior to the meeting.

Notes:

The KWFN Board of Directors consulted extensively with the membership during the 2013-2014 club season at regular club meetings, through articles in the *Heron* newsletter, by email and postal mail. Members have had the opportunity to propose new names or to oppose the renaming of the club. The results of these consultations have been communicated to the members over the past year. The clear consensus has been to proceed with the proposed operating name change.

This proposed bylaw does not change the legal name of the Corporation. Our public face and communications will be under the new name.

The Board recognizes that there is considerable work to be done in revamping the web site, other documents and the club logo, and in promulgating the changes to the community. The Board has established a Communication Committee to spearhead this work over the coming months.

.....Proxy form page 7

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PROXY FORM Kitchener-Waterloo Field Naturalists

I,	hereby appoint David Gascoigne, or in			
his absence	to be my proxy at the Special General			
Meeting to be convened on 27th October 2014 and to vote on my behalf.				
Signed:	Date:			
Mail this form to : The Secretary, KWFN, c/o Charlotte Moore, 26 Pintail Drive,				
Elmira, ON N3B 3C4, OR scan and email to charlotte.se.moore@gmail.com OR hand to the Secretary				
prior to the start of the meeting.				

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Kitchener-Waterloo Field Naturalists 317 Highland Road East Kitchener, ON N2M 3W6

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

Membership Annual Fees

Family/Couple \$35 Senior Couple \$30 Adult Individual \$30 Senior (60+) \$25 Student (19+) \$25 Free Membership for youth 18 and under. Club year runs from Sept. to August

Cheques made payable to:

K W Field Naturalists.

Bring payment to the next meeting or mail to: KWFN at 317 Highland Rd E., Kitchener, N2M 3W6

Membership details, on our web site at: http://www.kwfn.ca/member

ship.html

KWFN is a registered charitable organization. Membership fees and all donations are tax deductible.

Objectives of the KWFN

TO acquire and disseminate knowledge of natural history.

TO protect and preserve wildlife.

TO purchase and hold appropriate parcels of land for the advancement of conservation.

TO support public interest in nature and its preservation by supporting the enactment of wise legislation and by other means as falls within the scope of the Corporation.

General Information

Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month, September to May with the exception of December. Our meetings are free and visitors are always welcome.

Outings are scheduled almost every month.

Advertising Rates for The Heron:

Size	Per issue	Full year (9 issues)
full page half page quarter page 1/10 page	\$200 \$100 \$ 50 \$ 25	\$1600 \$ 800 \$ 400 \$ 200
(business card)		

"The Heron" is the official publication of the KWFN. Information is written and submitted by volunteer members of the club. Articles reflect the views of the authors and are not necessarily the views endorsed by the KWFN club.

The Heron is published from September to June with the exception of December.

Print copies of the newsletter are available at meetings free of charge to members.

Newsletters available on Our web site at:

http://www.kwfn.ca/newsletter.html

The Kitchener-Waterloo Field
Naturalists
Is a member of Ontario Nature.
http://www.ontarionature.org/index.php