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THE HERON**WINTER 2016**

RECEPTION HALL
 WATERLOO KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 50 ERB STREET WEST, WATERLOO

**UPCOMING SPEAKER**

Join us November 28th for a presentation by Stuart Mackenzie on the Motus Wildlife Tracking System.

See waterlooregionnature.ca for details, and pg. 14&15 for information on more upcoming speakers!

OUTINGS, OUTINGS, OUTINGS

Read inside for more information on upcoming outings, and check your email for further updates, cancellation information, and new outings added.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

WRN is still looking for a Publicity Director! If you are interested, email vicepresident@waterlooregionnature.ca for more information.



Golden Alexanders (Zizia aurea).

Photo by: Graham Buck

Golden Alexanders

By Wayne Buck

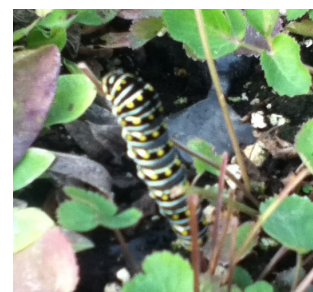
During the second week of October our sharp-eyed grandsons spotted a Black Swallowtail caterpillar on the carrots in our garden. They were thrilled. A few days later, Lynda spotted 2 more of the bright-coloured caterpillars on pots of Golden Alexanders in our greenhouse.

I was surprised for two reasons: one, I had never seen a Black Swallowtail adult in our greenhouse; second, I didn't know that they used Golden Alexanders as a host plant, usually preferring, dill, parsley or carrots. So I did a little research.

Golden Alexanders are in the Apiaceae family commonly known as the carrot, celery or parsley family. Most members have hollow stems and are aromatic like Dill or Queen Anne's Lace. It therefore stands to reason that adult female Black Swallowtails would be attracted to the Golden Alexanders in our greenhouse and the carrot tops in our garden which are both aromatic.

Golden Alexanders are known for their bright yellow flowers which appear in May and June.

Their flower heads are composed of many tiny flowers which are about the same size as the umbels on Queen Anne's Lace. Plants are between 40-70 cm tall with lace-shaped or oval dark green leaves. They are often found growing in damp or wet locations in full sun but will tolerate dry locations and light shade. A nice sized patch can be found near the Nith River at the south (i.e. back) of our Montgomery Wildlife Sanctuary which would qualify as a shaded damp site.



Black Swallowtail caterpillar

Photo by: Wayne Buck

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Spring Issue

February 15th

Fall Issue

July 15th

Winter Issue

October 15th

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All WRN Club
meetings are held
in the Reception
Hall of the
Waterloo Knox
Presbyterian
Church

50 Erb St. West

Regular Meetings
begin at 7:30pm.
Doors open at
7pm.

**All parking is
FREE**

All parking access
is off Dupont
Street.



Calmness, Happiness, Inspiration

All of this you can find in nature, and it won't cost you a dime. Let's face it, we all get stressed out sometimes, swamped with things we'd rather not be doing, ruminating perceived or real problems, and the result is often misery, sleepless nights or cheap and unhealthy thrills such as too much TV, shopping, potato chips, chocolate cake, or heaven forbid, one too many drinks at Oktoberfest or elsewhere.

Yet, there is a much simpler solution- literally step back for a second, or rather, step outside or to your window more often. It seems that many of our issues can be directly related to being cooped in all day, and it's not surprising that the majority of Canadians spend most of their time indoors, often in windowless offices, despite the obvious health benefits of walking or even sitting outside, enjoying sunshine and fresh air, and taking a break from our hectic daily lives.

While nature walks with friends and family are always fun, after spending time with Marlene Creates, one of the Writers in Residence who resided at *rare* for a few months this fall, I have recently come to realize that sometimes spending time outdoors alone, or at least in silence, can result in unexpected quality time. Simply being quiet can open your eyes, ears and other senses to a whole new world of many little sights and sounds that under ordinary circumstances you would likely miss, or at least under-appreciate.

At this time of year, when it's getting chilly outside and the air is as crisp as the leaves under your feet, there are so many things to discover. The various textures of seed heads and dried grasses, red and orange maple leaves interspersed with bluish grey oak leaves, bright white mushrooms on a deep-green mossy stump, and berries in all shades of red, blue and purple.

Although, if you listen closely, you will likely be jerked back to reality quickly by what seems to be a never-ending soundscape of civilization noise: There are few places where you can listen to just water, wind and birds in peace without being disrupted by blaring sirens, the faint humming of an endless stream of cars, revving motorcycle engines, honking trains, chirping cell phones or the good old 12 o'clock bell. Considering this constant cacophony, I sometimes wonder if I have ever been somewhere that's *truly* quiet, where all you can hear is simply the sound of nature, without anything man-made to distract- what does *just* nature even sound like? Thankfully we have dark sky reserves, but do we have "zero noise" reserves yet? If not, it's definitely something to consider.

I hope as the seasons change, you can make some time this winter for enjoying nature, may it be on hikes and walks, or if you're house-bound, by having a peaceful cup of tea at a window, observing what nature brings right to your door with snow, ice, birds and more. Even in front of your own living room window, there's always something new to see!

Thank you, Stephanie

*Nominations now open for WRN
Conservation Award and
Lifetime membership.*

See Stephanie for more details.



Here's the winter outings list so bundle up and get outside! Actually, there are some "indoor outings" this time! Something for everyone!

Check our website waterlooregionnature.ca/activities and watch your email for information about other future outings.

Send offers to lead an outing to Marg Paré at outings@waterlooregionnature.ca anytime! For more information on a specific outing, please contact the outing leader.

Nature at RiverSong

Date/Time: Almost any Thursday, Friday or Saturday year-round during our café hours, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If the OPEN sign is up, stop in at the café then wander the property on your own. Accompanied walks can also be pre-arranged.

Location: RiverSong Banquet Hall, 632 Hawkesville Road, St. Jacobs

Leader: John Pries, 519-574-8550, john.h.pries@gmail.com riversongbakerycafe.com

Our property is located on the Conestogo River about 3km west of St. Jacobs. It hosts a range of flora and fauna that you can enjoy from seating areas or by walking the trails to access various parts of the property. It's a great place for nature observation, photography, painting, or relaxing in any season. Come and enjoy the fall colours and then when the weather turns colder, the winter wonderland.

Accessibility:

A large portion of our several-acre backyard area is flat and easily accessible and boasts great views of the river as well as wetland, field, and forest habitat. During the winter, access may be limited due to snow cover. Some paths on the property are relatively steep and can be slippery so appropriate footwear is encouraged.

Solar Home Tour at *rare's* North House

Date: Friday, November 18th

Time: 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Location: *rare's* North House, 681 Blair Road

Leader: Jenna Quinn 519-650-9336 x111 jenna.quinn@raresites.org

North House is a solar-powered, green housing prototype that is used as a living lab by researchers and provides a science and technology site for *rare's* school programs. On this tour, explore many of the emerging technological advances and concepts of modern sustainable living showcased at North House, and learn the history of the house and how it found its way to *rare*. Washroom available. Indoor event with four steps to entry. RSVP welcome but not necessary.

Christmas Bird Counts

The annual Christmas Bird Counts have been around since 1900. This was a way to obtain an idea of which birds were in the area for the winter period. These counts have been instrumental for conservation planning since their inception. If you would like to participate in our 3 local counts, contact the person listed below. Counters may also collect relevant data by counting birds that use their feeders on count days. This will be count number 116.

Kitchener: Saturday, December 17, 2016. Contact mike.burrell.on@gmail.com

Cambridge: Sunday, December 18, 2016. Contact levicmoore1@gmail.com

Linwood: Thursday, December 29, 2016. Contact kenneth.gd.burrell@gmail.com

Cross-country Skiing at the Schneider Property

Date: Saturday, January 14, 2017

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Duration: Up to an hour and a half, depending on the group's preference

Meeting Place: At the first entrance to the property on Carmel Koch Road closest to Wilmot Line. If you go past the nun's residence then you've gone too far west. Phone if unclear of meet-up location or skiing conditions.

Leader: Janet Ozaruk, 519-893-0490, cell 226-748-9905

The Schneider Property (also called Schneider's Woods) is one of the best areas around for cross-country skiing, with a mix of open field, hardwood forest, plantations, and creeks. The trails are kept in good condition as trail use is limited only to skiing (no foot traffic) in the winter. There is a variety of trails to choose from and we can design a loop suited to our group. Bring your skis, a snack, a drink and hope for lots of snow!

Wellesley Raptors

Date: Sunday, January 22, 2017

Time: 8:30 a.m. start; finished by noon

Location: Beechwood Plaza, Erb & Fischer-Hallman (meet near Erb St. parking lot entrance)

This is due to a building being constructed in the section of the parking lot where we used to meet.

Leaders: The Burrell's Jim: 519-699-4695 burrellsc@golden.net

Join us for a morning drive around the countryside of Wellesley and Peel townships. We will be searching for over-wintering raptors and whatever else flies in our faces.

A Special Invitation for WRN to Visit the Region of Waterloo Archives

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. WRN members and friends are welcome to stay longer to mingle and spend more time looking at the displays.

Location: Region of Waterloo Archives, located on the 1st floor of the historic (1965) County of Waterloo Courthouse at 20 Weber Street East in Kitchener. When you enter the building from the main entrance, facing Weber Street, continue through the doors on the left that read "Information Management and Archives." Parking is available in the parking lot in front of the historic Governor's House and in the underground parking underneath the Kitchener Public Library. Both lots require payment and are accessible from Queen Street. The location is also very accessible by bus.

Host: Mary Ann Vanden Elzen [519-741-8272](tel:519-741-8272) mave@microverse.on.ca

****Please RSVP to Mary Ann by Friday, February 10.**

Leader: Charlotte Woodley, Archivist, Region of Waterloo Archives

[519-575-4757](tel:519-575-4757) x3511 cwoodley@regionofwaterloo.ca

WRN members are welcome to contact Charlotte with any questions.

The outing will take place at the Region of Waterloo Archives, in the newly renovated 1965 County of Waterloo Courthouse. It will begin with a short introduction and talk about the Archives and the Waterloo Region Nature collection and related collections, a tour of the vaults (not usually open to the public) and an opportunity to peruse exhibits of material related to the history and natural history of Waterloo Region.

The Archives is an accessible building, however the tour will involve walking and standing in the building for approximately 20 to 30 minutes. There are 2 accessible washrooms in the facility.

We are very grateful to Mary Ann and Charlotte for connecting to organize this behind-the-scenes opportunity! Come see the amazing resources for research contained in the Archives collection including our own KWFN/WRN archives which are stored there. At the same time, you'll get a look inside the newly renovated courthouse building.

North Shore of Lake Ontario

Date: Saturday, March 18, 2017

Time & Duration: All day outing beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Location: Meet at the commuter parking lot on Highway 6 just south of Highway 401.

Leader: David Gascoigne theospreynest@sympatico.ca (H) 519-725-0866 (C) 226-747-7299

We will start our day at LaSalle Park in Burlington where the largest concentration of Trumpeter Swans in Ontario will be present, in addition to a whole range of gulls and other waterfowl. A walk along the boardwalk through the wooded area might yield Carolina Wren, Northern Mockingbird, woodpeckers, sparrows and, for those who enjoy doing it, the chance to hand feed Black-capped Chickadees. Eastern Screech Owl is possible. Many other common passerines should be seen.

Our next stop will be at Sioux Lookout Park, which for many years has been the most reliable location for Long-tailed Ducks at close range. The water is very clear and the ducks can be seen “flying” underwater. Large rafts of Common Goldeneye are usually present, by now well into their entertaining courtship routine. All three scoters are possible, as are Red-breasted and Common Mergansers, Bufflehead, Mute Swans and others.

We will proceed eastward along the lake, stopping at various points (e.g. Paletta Park, Bronte Harbour, Lakeshore Promenade) being guided by recent reports, and the time of day. Somewhere along the way we hope to encounter Red-necked Grebes and possible Horned Grebes.

There is no shortage of washroom stops along this route and we will stop somewhere to have lunch together.

This is a full day's outing so be sure to pack a lunch and snacks if you need them. Dress according to the weather, bring binoculars, a scope if you have one, a field guide and lots of enthusiasm.

Seed Starting Workshop at *rare*

Date: Friday, March 24, 2017

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: *rare* Resource House, 768 Blair Road, Cambridge

Host: Jenna Quinn 519-650-9336 x111 jenna.quinn@raresites.org

Leader: Taryn WoodnoteSaberwing

Why start seeds indoors? When is the right time to start seeds indoors? What seeds are easiest to start indoors? Join *rare's* Garden Coordinator as she answers these questions and more to make sure you know how to give your plants the best start. We will even start seeds that can be taken home and planted. All-weather indoor event, accessible to all, with washrooms available.

Long Point Area Migrants

Date: Saturday, March 25, 2017

Time & Duration: All day outing beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Location: Carpool lot at 401 and Homer Watson Blvd. / Fountain St.

Leader: The Burrell's Jim: 519-699-4695

burrellsc@golden.net

Join us for this popular annual outing to Long Point, one of Lake Erie's birding hotspots. We will focus on returning waterfowl as they stop on their way northward. Bring a lunch, binos, field guides and a scope if you have one. Dress warmly as it may be cooler near the lake at this time of year.



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WRN Members: IN THE NEWS

- ⇒ Have you heard about "Turtle Beach"? WRN's past president Josh Shea made the news in September after construction of Kitchener's first artificial nesting area for turtles. Read about it here: <http://www.therecord.com/news-story/6860704-hatchlings-begin-to-emerge-from-kitchener-s-first-turtle-beach/>
- ⇒ Congratulations to **rare Charitable Research Reserve** on being awarded an Ontario Land Trust Alliance (OLTA) Land Trust Achievement Award in October. Read more here: <http://exchangemagazine.com/morningpost/2016/week43/Thursday/16102702.htm>
- ⇒ In spring of 2016, WRN member Craig Campbell received the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement. Our heartfelt congratulations! More details on the WRN website: <https://waterlooregionnature.ca/index.php/2016/03/18/craig-campbell-receives-lifetime-achievement-award/>

Hidden Valley Art Show

By Anne Morgan

As many of you may know our long time members, Daphne and Gordon Nicholls, have worked tirelessly for years to preserve the integrity of Hidden Valley in Kitchener. Unfortunately, Daphne did not live long enough to follow through on her plans to showcase the beauty and value of this incredible area. She hoped that another art show would inspire others to help in the protection of the forests, wetlands and fields from development.

We are pleased to announce that Gord and several of Daphne's friends have taken up where Daphne left off, and are finalizing details for a juried art show, "Hidden Valley Revealed" that will take place at Homer Watson Gallery in September 2017. This early notice will give everyone an opportunity to take photos, paint and get inspiration from Hidden Valley throughout the four seasons. Whether it be the amazing vistas, the wonderful wildflowers or the diversity of wildlife, every aspect of Hidden Valley represents a jewel worth preserving, and we hope

this art show will help to garner public support for its protection in perpetuity.

To read some of the historical perspectives on the struggles to protect the 200 acres of Hidden Valley with further descriptions of this amazing area and how to enter the show, Gord has created a web site: <https://sites.google.com/site/hiddenvalleyorg/Home>

In the coming months there will be more information for pre-registration and entry submission requirements for the show on the Homer Watson Gallery website www.homerwatson.on.ca.

Meanwhile further enquiries can be directed to Deb Swidrovich (519-746-5287) or Anne Morgan (519-747-4049).

So, for all the talented artists in our WRN group, please think about submitting a current original piece of art inspired by any aspect of Hidden Valley in any season; and to our membership, we hope you will all come out to the show and support the protection of Hidden Valley (dates to follow).

Hidden Valley by Daphne Nicholls

the woods, fields and wetlands;

the mature Oaks, Maples, Cherries, Beeches, and Hemlock groves;

the ephemeral pools in spring, where Jefferson Salamanders mate;

endangered species at risk, including Jefferson Salamanders ,

and a Butternut tree,

and threatened species including Woods Sedge,

ringed Gentians, Barn Swallows, Chimney Swifts, Least Bitterns, little brown Bats, northern bats, and rusty patched bumblebees;

species of concern, including Bald Eagles, Canada Warblers, Common Nighthawks, Eastern Wood Peewee

Eastern milk snake, Monarch Butterfly, Snapping Turtle.

And West Virginia White Butterfly;

the many wildflowers and Carolinian plants;

the migratory waterfowl;

the creeks that flow to the Grand and contribute to the Region's drinking water;

the hills and valleys that are part of the Waterloo moraine and filter and store our water

Membership Director's Report

By Anne Godlewski

Welcome, New Members!

Janice Ball	Matt Dil	Heather Hughes	April Trink
Colleen Brown	Natalie Doerr	Patrick Jagielski	Emma Trink
Ian Brown	Jason Earle	Dave Johnston	Isabella Trink
Malcolm Brown	Dan Frei	Hrithik Patel	Lucas Trink
Mallory Brown	Carol Gorenc	Shannon Pennington	Sophia Trink
Ray Cardey	Franc Gorenc	Susanne Pennington	Stephen Trink
Micah De Vito	Wende Gregory-Frei	Peter Rasberry	Chris Wright
Etta Di Leo	Colin Hayward	Abigail Trink	

Thank you to our donors:

Robert & Ann Bean	Franc & Carol Gorenc	Wil & Marilyn Prudham
Genie Berger	Wende Gregory-Frei & Dan Frei	Jenna Quinn
Paul & Pat Bigelow	Doris & Dennis Hilker	Katharina Richter (in memory of Barry Bauman)
Jim Cappleman & Irene Simpson	David Hood	Harold Russell
Jennifer Clayfield & Robert Oswald	Douglas & Barbara Inniss (in memory of Julie Frey)	Andrew Ryckman & Kaitlin Powers
Lynn Conway & Alex White	Dale & Nina Ingrey	Shayne Sangster
Janet & Ken Dance	Marlene Krebs	Jane Schneider
Marco & Donna DeBruin	Ruth Kroft	Lori & Jim Strothard
Ross Dickson	Mary & Richard Lee	David Westfall & Sandy & Jamie Hill
Bob Fraser	Faye & Curtiss MacDonald	Michelle & John Tomins
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Also at St. Jacobs Farmers Market

****And now at the Stratford Farmers Market****

WRN: Photo Gallery



Wonders of Nature Festival. Photos by P. Bigelow.



Waterloo Region Nature outing at Schneider's Woods. Photos by H. Russell

Do you have nature or event photos to share? Send them to editor@waterlooregionnature.ca

waterlooregionnature.ca

Ontario Nature Report

By Fraser Gibson

Ontario Weakens Protections for Algonquin Wolf

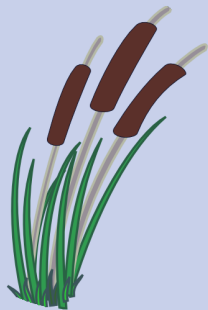
On September 15, Algonquin wolves, which are listed as Threatened in Ontario, became significantly more vulnerable when the provincial government passed an ESA exemption allowing them to be hunted and trapped. Ontario Nature is strongly opposed to this exemption because it is contrary to the intent of the ESA and hunting/trapping are the primary threats to Algonquin wolves. Exemptions like this one are why Ontario Nature is [taking the provincial government to court](#).



Save the Date for the 2017 Annual Gathering

Save the date for Ontario Nature's 2017 Annual Gathering scheduled for June 2-4 at the [Kempfenfelt Conference Centre](#) on the shores of Lake Simcoe. The celebratory weekend will feature our annual Ontario Nature Conservation Awards, a suite of informative workshops on various topics, expert-led field trips to local wildlife hot spots and an inspiring keynote address.

Have Your Say on Wetland Conservation in Ontario



Let the government know what you think of their proposed plan to protect our vulnerable wetlands. Building on your feedback about Wetland Conservation in Ontario: A Discussion Paper, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has developed a Wetland Conservation Strategy for Ontario. That strategy is now [open for public comment](#) on the Environmental Registry until November 16, 2016. For more information, contact [Joshua Wise](#).

We Are Going to Court to Protect Pollinators

In a bid to protect pollinators from harmful pesticides, Ontario Nature, David Suzuki Foundation, Friends of the Earth Canada and the Wilderness Committee are [taking the federal government to court](#). Our Ecojustice lawyers argue that a number of pesticides containing two neonicotinoids are unlawfully registered in Canada. It is time for Canada to recognize their environmental risks.



An Exciting Time for Citizen Science

Ontario Nature is thrilled to announce the launch of the [Directory of Ontario Citizen Science](#) (DOCS). This online tool links seasoned or budding citizen scientists with volunteer opportunities across the province. DOCS is aimed at citizen science projects with biological, environmental or conservation goals. It includes interesting and fun projects looking for dedicated participants.

Bad News for Ontario's Endangered Species

The Ontario Court of Appeals delivered a blow to endangered species in mid October when it [ruled in favour of the Ontario Divisional Court's decision](#) to uphold a provincial regulation that exempts major industrial activities from the protection standards outlined in the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This means that the ESA won't do what it was created to do and that the province's endangered species are now at greater risk. We are very disappointed by this ruling, but we are determined to continue [highlighting the threats](#) to species at risk in Ontario.



Nature Network News

Ontario Nature publishes a monthly Nature Network Newsletter from which I draw material for the Heron. If you wish to see each newsletter they are posted on the Ontario Nature website at: [Nature Network News](#).

Celebrating “Waterloo” at Ontario Nature’s 85th Annual Gathering, June 2016

Approximately 100 attendees participated in the Great Ontario Natural History Quiz. Teams of 8-10 people rotated through eight stations of ten items each. After puzzling over the identity of all 80 natural objects or sounds the “Waterloo” team was declared the victor.

The following photo shows the “Waterloo” team proudly accepting their first place prizes. From left to right: Fraser Gibson, Stephanie Sobek-Swant, Dan Schneider, Graham Macdonald, Scott Beemer, Jane Schneider, Sue Beemer, Kevin and Stephanie Thomason, and Marg Macdonald.



Photo by: John Hassell

Upcoming Speakers and Meeting Programs

*Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:30pm. Meetings are free and visitors are always welcome.
Meeting Location: Reception Hall, Waterloo Knox Presbyterian Church, 50 Erb Street West, Waterloo*

DECEMBER

December 5, 2016

WRN ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY Monday, December 5, 2016 7:00PM to 9:30PM

Come and join fellow members for an informal evening of good food, good folks and good fun.

Again this year, our own Michel Allard will share his talent as a professional pianist, playing background music as well as accompanying any enthusiastic group of singers gathered around the piano.

Please bring either appetizers or dessert to share. Dishes and cutlery are available.
Fair trade bird-friendly, shade grown coffee will be provided, as well as hot apple cider.

Remember to visit the new exhibitors in the foyer, for added interest.

Thanks to our many volunteers who work to decorate the hall, and help make this night an annual success.

JANUARY

January 23, 2017

Peter Burke, Illustrator

The Presentation: Peter will show us how birding field guides are illustrated, using his own research and drawings on the Field Guide to the Birds of Chile to provide examples.

The Presenter: Preeminent natural history illustrator **PETER BURKE** has been a student of the works of many master bird artists.

Peter started bird watching nearly forty years ago. He attended the University of Guelph (1986-1990) where he trained in the Fine Arts program while obtaining a B.Sc. in Biological Sciences. He works as a biological consultant and an illustrator and a birding guide.

While studying at University of Guelph, he chanced to meet Alvaro Jaramillo, a birding fellow from Chile. Their friendship has led to many collaborative efforts.

In addition to working as an illustrator on many field guides, Peter has co-authored various articles on bird identification and biology and served as chair on the Ontario Bird Records Committee. Peter has birded extensively throughout Ontario and has traveled abroad for many of those years looking at and studying birds.

See full speaker biography at waterlooregionnature.ca.

waterlooregionnature.ca

FEBRUARY

February 27, 2017

Popcorn and Videos and Photos: Where I've Been, What I've Seen in 2016

With so many nature lovers actively recording their outings and sightings with pix and flicks, we would enjoy sharing armchair adventures of your nature experiences together on a winter's night.

From the past year, select approximately ten of your best shots, or edit your video to ten minutes or less, for showing to an appreciative audience. Your commentary is welcome, but not required.

Longer presentations considered.

The excellent audiovisual facilities at Knox are ready and waiting, with assistance for the technically challenged.

Email programs@waterlooregionnature.ca, to ask questions or to book a screen time.

Let's make this a fun event! Popcorn and hot apple cider provided.



MARCH

March 27, 2017

Spiders: The Amazing Life of Spiders– Hunters, Fishers, Trappers

Dan Schneider "Dan the Nature Man"

The Presentation: Subject of many superstitions, spiders share our world where they are loved or loathed. Learn more of the facts about spiders, and you might want to become an arachnerd yourself!

Spiders as a whole can be a daunting group to identify, but learning how to discern certain family characteristics will make the task much easier. Come and discover more about this group, and watch for a spider field trip with Dan, later in the year! "If you want to live and thrive, let the spider run alive!" – old English saying, Kent region.

The Presenter: Over a career spanning more than three decades at the Guelph Lake Nature Centre, **Dan Schneider** has inspired an estimated 200,000 local elementary and high school students and a host of other visitors to the northeast Guelph site overlooking the lake and dam, part of the 1,600-hectare conservation area along Conservation Road.

He now serves part time for Conservation Halton as a nature interpreter at the Mountsbury Wildlife Centre and Crawford Lake Conservation Area, and plans to be involved in fundraising and planning for the new nature centre and staff facility at Guelph Lake.

See also photographs **Ojibway Nature Centre**, Windsor: <http://www.ojibway.ca/spiders.htm>

See full speaker description and biography at waterlooregionnature.ca.

Canada Post Publication
Mail Sales Agreement
No. 40037542

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TO acquire and disseminate knowledge of natural
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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.

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The Heron is published
three times per year.
Please see page 2 for
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