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WELCOME BACK!

Our first club meeting of the season will be held virtually on Monday, September 27th.

Join us online to hear recent news, meet new members, share nature sightings and listen to a guest presentation.

*Register at:
waterlooregionnature.ca*



Faith just after rescue! (top)

Adult in flight (bottom)

Photos: Heather Buerkle (top) Karen Knobloch (bottom)

THE HERON

FALL 2021

RECEPTION HALL
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Peregrine Falcon Fledge Watch

By Dale Ingrey

After nine years of unpredictability, the peregrines of K-W threw us another curve in this second year of the pandemic. Rather than raising their brood in the nest box on the CTV tower as they have since 2015, they opted for a ninth floor balcony at St. Mary's Hospital. The fledge watch team was unaware of this development until early May when we were informed by the Canadian Peregrine Foundation that hospital employees had observed the chicks hatching around the end of April.

At the hospital's request the four eyases were banded with Ontario and USFW bands for tracking purposes as well as temporary coloured tape on one leg to assist the fledge watch team in identification, and duly named Care, Discovery, Compassion and Faith after St. Mary's motto.

The watch began on June 5 when the first chick had reached 35 days of age and it was not long before the action commenced. Care, a male was the first to fly, as is normally the case since the females are heavier and usually attempt flight later. He came to ground on the lawn in front of the hospital, was rescued, given a health check and released on the rooftop. The next morning it was the same story: grounding, rescue, release. Fledglings are unable to fly very high while on the ground because their chest and wing muscles are not yet fully developed. If left unattended they are vulnerable to predation and in this location in danger of being hit by a moving vehicle.

The next day Care was discovered trapped in an interior courtyard of the hospital, and taken to a mews for some rest, hydration and TLC. Meanwhile Faith embarked on her maiden flight and ended up on Queen's Boulevard where she was towelled and carried to safety.

Continued on page 8

WRN Directors

President

Janet Ozaruk
226-748-9905
president@waterlooregionnature.ca

Vice President

Jenna Quinn
519-362-7921
vicepresident@waterlooregionnature.ca

Past President

David Gascoigne
519-725-0866
pastpresident@waterlooregionnature.ca

Conservation Director

Levi Moore
519-501-4031
conservation@waterlooregionnature.ca

Treasurer

Paul Bigelow
519-888-7516
treasurer@waterlooregionnature.ca

Membership Director

Zack Stevens
226-929-9393
membership@waterlooregionnature.ca

Secretary

Jeremy Bannon
519-588-9941
secretary@waterlooregionnature.ca

Outings Director

Shannon Pennington
519-239-3015
outings@waterlooregionnature.ca

Program Director

Snehaa Suryanarayanan
416-816-0036
programs@waterlooregionnature.ca

Publicity Director

Jason Earle
519-505-3797
publicity@waterlooregionnature.ca

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

50 Erb St. West

A date for the return to in-person club meetings for the 2021-2022 season is to be determined.

Positions of Responsibility

Web Site Manager

Paul Bigelow 519-888-7516
web@waterlooregionnature.ca

Mailing Team

Rick and Jan Hook 519-742-7419
mailing@waterlooregionnature.ca

Archivist

Mary Ann Vanden Elzen 519-741-8272
archivist@waterlooregionnature.ca

Noteworthy Bird Sightings

Jim Burrell
birds@waterlooregionnature.ca

Ontario Nature Representative

<http://ontarionature.org/index.php>
Fraser Gibson 519-576-9287
onrep@waterlooregionnature.ca

Facebook Page Administrator

Cathi Stewart
facebook@waterlooregionnature.ca

WRN Kids Coordinator

Giselle Carter 518-584-2205
kids@waterlooregionnature.ca

WRN Teens Coordinator

Marg Paré 519-500-3450
teens@waterlooregionnature.ca

F. H. Montgomery Wildlife Sanctuary

Anita Smith 519-500-2676
montgomery@waterlooregionnature.ca

Kitchener's Natural Areas Program (KNAP)

Josh Shea 519-741-3400 ext.3349
knap@waterlooregionnature.ca

Other Inquiries

info@waterlooregionnature.ca

Heron Editor

Jenna Quinn
519-362-7921
editor@waterlooregionnature.ca

Submission Deadlines:

Winter Issue
October 15th
Spring Issue
February 15th-
Fall Issue
July 15th



What a strange journey it has been for the past year and a half! I last served on the Waterloo Region Nature board, retiring as Past President, in Spring 2014. After a break, I got the itch to get back in the saddle. I had missed working as part of such a dynamic group, collaborating and helping to steer the various moving parts. I thought I would be returning to familiar territory. I thought I knew what I was signing up for. And then - poof! – we were plunged into Covid. The Board quickly and thoughtfully adjusted to this new reality.

Membership dues were waived for the 2020/21 and 2021/22 seasons to reflect the decrease in activities offered. Even with this loss of revenue stream, the club did not take a financial hit. Our Treasurer reports that donations, a bequest and strong online field guide sales kept money coming. Along with greatly reduced meeting expenses, those gave the Operating Fund a healthy surplus.

The club fit in small-scale outings when group size restrictions allowed it. These filled up immediately. We hosted some of our own monthly presentations via Zoom and piggy-backed onto Nature Guelph's presentations to share in a broader range of offerings. Our two most recent annual general meetings were conducted with on-line voting. This went surprisingly smoothly.

Our advocacy efforts ramped up. It quickly became apparent that even though Covid was dominating the headlines, we needed to stay

aware and keep a critical eye on environmental issues. It was too easy for a health pandemic to be used as a smoke screen for the hasty removal of community consultation and local planning processes. Currently, terms of reference are being drafted for WRN's fledgling Conservation Action Committee. It is proposed that this committee engage in advocacy, outreach, lobbying and education. Members will focus on issues within the Region of Waterloo but may also comment on those involving wider areas that affect the Region and may support initiatives elsewhere.

WRN Teens group continued on, creatively seeking ways to stay safe and connected. They engaged with guest speakers via Zoom, met up for small group activities, undertook individual outdoor challenges and worked through on-line resources. Membership fees were also waived for the 2020/21 and 2021/22 seasons.

With continued safe practices and Covid vaccination rates climbing, there is light at the end of the tunnel. As I write this, the Region is preparing to soon enter Phase 3 of re-opening. This is most welcome news.

Like so many others, I used my free time during lock down for full-out birding, exploring parks close to my home. It was soothing and made things feel normal, if only for an hour or two. I learned rapidly. In the evenings, with nothing else to do, I watched webinars and did on-line research. I started my own personal Big Year, just to feel a sense of accomplishment (and I'm not going to tell you the number of species I'm currently at, because some of you sight that many before breakfast!). While I did the best I could under the circumstances, it just reinforced how much I missed getting out in nature with my peeps! I missed the extra set of eyes, the transmission of knowledge, the shared excitement of working through an identification together. I have faith that we will return to larger group outings and indoor gatherings and I look forward to meeting up with all of you in person once again. Until then, I wish you good health and good sightings!

-Janet

OUTINGS, ACTIVITIES, THINGS TO DO &

Interested in Leading an Outing?

Please contact Outings Director Shannon Pennington at outings@waterlooregionnature.ca with your ideas.

Remember, you don't need to be an expert to lead an outing! Outings are a great way to get people together who have common interests and want to learn, share knowledge, and spend time together in nature. We will help to ensure that all outings follow the most up to date public health guidelines for Covid-19.

UPCOMING CLUB OUTINGS

Visit www.waterlooregionnature.ca for full outing descriptions. Registration is required for all outings. Please contact the outing leader to register and learn more!

North Shore of Lake Ontario

When: Wednesday, September 1st, 2021 and again on Saturday, September 25th, 2021

All day event beginning at 8:00am

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

Who: David Gascoigne theospreynest@sympatico.ca 519-725-0866 (h) 226-747-7299 (c)

A full day birding tour with multiple stops. 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.

Fern Walk at *rare*

When: Wednesday, September 15th, from approximately 9:30am to 11:30am

Where: Meet at the *rare* administration building, 1679 Blair Rd., Cambridge

Who: Co-leaders Tom Woodcock and Fraser Gibson. Contact research@rarsites.org to register.

A guided walk of the Craig Campbell Fern Walk at *rare*. This is a relatively flat and even walking trail with 10+ species of fern to find and identify.

WRN September Meeting

Register for our virtual club meeting on Monday, September 27th. Join us online to hear recent news, meet new members, share nature sightings and listen to a TBD guest presentation.

Visit www.waterlooregionnature.ca to register and learn more.

Huron Natural Area Field Outing, July 10, 2021

By Alan Morgan

A group of 19 members of WRN met at the Huron Natural Area shelter at 10am on Saturday 10th of July for a short two hour, 2.5 km walk through part of the property. After a slight delay the group split into two in order to follow Covid-19 regulations on size and socially separated distances. One group of keen "birders" headed off in one direction whilst the other group of "general naturalists" followed the route outlined in this summary.

Our starting point at the shelter had several different species of milkweeds that were attracting both male and female monarchs on common milkweed, whilst a Great Spangled Fritillary was seen on orange butterfly weed (below). A Mourning Cloak and Cabbage White added to the Lepidoptera list.



A short walk took us to an open field with a number of bird boxes, one of which had been commandeered by a house wren, which brings us to birds seen that included a House wren, Cow birds and a Turkey vulture. Birds seen but not photographed included an Eastern kingbird, a Great blue heron, Mallard, Canada goose, Northern cardinal, American robin, Grey catbird, Song sparrow, and Waxwing. Not seen, but heard, were a Great crested flycatcher, Eastern Wood Peewee, Field Sparrow and Red-eyed Vireo high in the forest canopy.

Approaching our first stop at the top of a small hill we noticed several members of the Order Odonata specifically a delicate and beautiful blue damselfly (likely a Tule Bluet) and a number of small red Meadowhawk dragonflies (below). On the way we had noted a number of flowers, some native, but unfortunately many introduced species.



Continued on next page



We had a lengthy discussion on the nature of male and female sumac flowers, the red female flowers forming striking bundles in the image above whilst below Queen Anne's lace and white daisies (left) alternated with Prairie cone-flowers (right). The white daisies were frequented by "Red soldier" beetles of the family Cantharidae. Crossing over the hill we descended to "The Board of Education Pond".

The boardwalk on the southern lake margin was lined with bullrushes, and many ebony darners flitted among the leaves (below). These voracious predators are armed (right below) with huge eyes, large mandibles and numerous spines that they use to impale small flies, moths and mosquitoes.



There was some discussion on the nature of seeding heads of bullrushes and a few members noted a small green frog at the lake margin. The nature and origin of the "kettle" lake was explained.



Our visit was almost over as we made our way back to the shelter, but not before we stopped to admire bracket fungi and a beautiful set of red mushrooms (Scarlet hood, perhaps?), but as my mushroom friends always tell us, "... don't identify, and certainly don't eat, unless you have an expert with you!



A great excursion with thanks to the leaders, Janet and Karen, and all the participants who made this an interesting morning at the Huron Natural Area!

All images copyright Alan V. Morgan.

SUBMISSIONS NEEDED!

If you have any articles, photographs, artwork, reviews, outing recaps, etc. you would like to see in our newsletter, please submit them to editor@waterlooregionnature.ca

Peregrine Falcon Fledge Watch

On Saturday, Care was released for the third time and landed safely back on the nest level after a short flight, much to everyone's relief. On Sunday another adventure occurred when the second female Compassion flew, ended up on the road and promptly flew into the sign atop a passing taxi. Thanks to team members and a police officer who noticed the commotion, the falcon was saved from harm. She too was taken for rest overnight and released without incident the next morning. The laggard of the quartet, Discovery finally decided to make his move during some inclement Monday weather but immediately lost altitude, coming to rest on the roof of a house. During periods of rain and gusts of wind he flew back and forth around the front of the hospital, finally settling in for the night on an upper ledge of the leeward side of the hospital. On Tuesday morning Discovery made it back to the aerie to join the rest of the family, thereby earning the distinction of being the only fledgling that hadn't come to ground.

Over the next few days all four youngsters were flying and landing reasonably well. With no more frantic rescues on the horizon, five for one year being sufficient, we decided to wind down the dawn to dusk watch and instead check on their progress intermittently.

As I write this in early July the fledglings are under the tutelage of their parents, honing flying and hunting skills which will be vital to their survival. In September they will migrate to Central America while the adult falcons remain here on territory. If all goes well the young ones will make it to their third year, find their own mates and raise a family of their own.

Many thanks to WRN members, Wendy Shaw, Fraser Gibson, Sandye Moores, Christine Alexander and Mary Anne Vanden Elzen for their volunteer efforts this year.

continued from pg. 1



Care in flight.

Photo: Karen Knobloch

A photograph of two people, an older man and a woman, both wearing binoculars and looking towards the right. They are outdoors, with a blurred background of trees and foliage. The man is wearing a light-colored shirt, and the woman is wearing a pink shirt.

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Membership Report

It's important to us that the nature programs we're able to provide remain accessible to all those who are interested, especially in a time when getting outside and connecting with nature has become so important for our wellbeing.

And so, we have decided that all **current WRN memberships will be automatically extended for another year, free of charge!** Similarly, all new memberships for 2021-2022 will also be free. Each and every one of you are vital to the sense of community that we aim to create, and are important in ensuring that we maintain our strong advocacy voice in our conversation and environmental protection work.

By Zack Stevens

We encourage those who wish to pay for their membership dues to do so as they're able. After-all, we still have bills to pay, so **any contribution is most welcome!** All donations with a membership designation will be deposited into the club's Operating Fund.

If you no longer wish to be affiliated with the club, and do not want your membership to be extended for another year, you may opt out by contacting membership@waterlooregionnature.ca.

Thank you for your continued support!

Thank You to Our Donors

Heather Cain

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Elaine La Ronde in memory of Betty Cooper

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Deb & Ritch Swidrovich

Anna Vallentin

Our anonymous donors

Welcome, New Members

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Candy Adam

Reiner Jakubowski

Jamie Adam

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Jeff Adam

Amy Lacey

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Alexis Landon

Kaylee Adam

Jennifer Leat

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Leslie McMahon

Patrick Boot

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WRN Teens Report

By Marg Paré

It seems not even a pandemic can stop WRN Teens! Our faithful Teens keep coming out and new Teens keep finding us. These enthusiastic folks took our various phases in stride: projects planned, projects cancelled, zooming, online challenges, and YAY! meeting in person! If nothing else, they are a flexible bunch!

All the Teens and adult volunteers are extremely grateful to have an open invitation to the Westfall-Hill's SpruceHaven Farm in St. Agatha which has literally allowed our club to continue existing. Last winter, we planted over 100 trees around their new ponds and are eagerly watching that habitat become home to many creatures. We also had fun in spite of really awful weather for our project trimming tree branches along the pathways. Teens took various kinds of branches home to create holiday decorations.

When we had to go back to online only programs (sigh), we were fortunate to connect virtually with various partners, some familiar and some new. We took advantage of online events and speakers from WRN, Nature Guelph, Ontario Nature and ON Youth Circle for Mother Earth, *rare*, WPL and KPL, and University of Waterloo. We also developed our skills using iNaturalist and participated in the City Nature Challenge, an international bioblitz.

Also during "online-only spring," with serendipitous timing, WRN members Graham and Marg Macdonald and David Gascoigne were doing some cleaning out and had nature guides and reference books to give away. A list of titles was distributed

and the Teens were very enthusiastic in their responses, citing first and second and third choices! Such a generous way to pass on knowledge!

In June, we were once again allowed to meet in person and jumped right into a new job for us, monitoring a section of the nest boxes at SpruceHaven called "Teens Row." In order to avoid stressing the young birds and their anxious parents, we work in small groups of five Teens and two adult volunteers -- bird limits are even lower than COVID limits! The Teens patiently take turns signing up and are doing a wonderful job with the monitoring protocol and data recording. During our first two years, Teens met during the school year only but this year it's been busy since we're now monitoring weekly all summer.

Even with a few Teens "graduating" and moving on to university, our group still has 20 members. With COVID restrictions on outdoor gatherings lifting, we're really looking forward to catching up those planned-and-cancelled projects and being altogether again.

One more thing we're excited about... Our local Teens group is becoming more connected to the larger nature network! Two of our members plan to attend the Ontario Nature Youth Summit for Mother Earth (in its online format) this fall. Huge thanks to all WRN members and to the WRN board for generously sponsoring youth to attend and become even more passionate about protecting our precious environment.



Nest box monitoring at SpruceHaven

Photo: Linda Dutka



Fledglings in nest box



Photos: WRN Teen Nicole

Waterloo Region Nature Kids!

By Giselle Carter

My name is Giselle and I am the coordinator of the Nature Kids Program. I am writing today from beautiful Sauble Beach, after a day of hiking, caving and eating some ice cream with my family! I am looking forward to gathering again with this great group of families this fall and exploring the outdoors together. One thing I love about this group is learning from other families about trails, natural areas and outdoor adventures, and then exploring them with my own kids.

As a group, we meet from 10-12 on the last Saturday of the month to explore local natural spaces and learn about nature and taking care of the earth. Each month, those who are registered will be notified of the location in the region where we will meet.

As it is only July, the plans for this coming year are still in rough draft. However, I plan to start the fall off exploring a local pond and learning about all the little critters there that are so important to the ecosystem. Later in the year, I hope to have an outing where we can learn about different types of rocks – something I know very little about. The bird count in January is always a highlight, and snowshoeing is a favourite (when we have enough snow of course). I hope that we can explore some local natural areas and regional forests in our area where we can learn and have fun together.

If you have children, grandchildren, neighbours or friends who have children 6-12 years old with whom they enjoy spending time outdoors, let them know about our club. We'd love to have them join us!

Visit www.waterlooregionnature.ca/kids or email kids@waterlooregionnature.ca for more info!



Hello from Giselle at Sauble Beach!

In Memoriam

Betty Cooper 1927 - 2021

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Betty Cooper on July 6, 2021. Betty was a member of KWFN/WRN for 62 years – 62 very active years of participation and contribution. Betty regularly attended meetings and participated in many projects and activities throughout her time with us. She was perhaps best known as the archivist for the club. For Betty, the club has been a constant in her life, bringing new interests and expanding her knowledge and friendships. Conversely, her mark on Waterloo Region Nature has been truly immense and will endure far into the future.



Marilyn Prudham - 1939 - 2021

With sadness we share the news of the passing of Marilyn Prudham. A keen participant in WRN's outings and an accomplished birder, Marilyn will be missed.

A Prairie in the Woods

By Mary Ann Vanden Elzen

My computer screen lit up. An email message from Janet Ozaruk:

Hi Mary Ann. I've seen from a Facebook page I follow that there's a lot of warbler activity at Lakeside Park. I think I'll go for a walk there around 3:45. Just sayin'.

Well, how could I resist an invitation like that! I phoned Elaine La Ronde. She was eager to join us.

In any normal May, hundreds of keen birders flock to Pt. Pelee National Park for the annual spring bird migration. But with COVID restrictions still in place, most are seeking out local hotspots. In Waterloo Region, that's Lakeside Park. In fact, some refer to Lakeside as "Pelee light."

We met at the park. My friends are experienced birders. Me: not so much.

No sooner had we entered the woods when a birder, clearly excited, asked:

- *Have you seen the Prairie Warbler?*
- *Prairie Warbler? You saw a Prairie Warbler! Where?*
- *In the underbrush. Over there.*

But, it was gone, nowhere to be seen. We'd missed it. It must have flown off.

Being the least knowledgeable of the three of us, I quietly thought to myself, "Prairie Warbler. What's a bird with a name like that doing here in the middle of the woods?"

We took a footpath down toward the pond. Janet and Elaine, attuned to the slightest movements, constantly checked flittings and dartings in undergrowth and tree branches. Conversation bounced between them:

- *Kinglet. On the right. In the scrub.*
- *White-breasted Nuthatch. Just moved to the back of that trunk. O, there it is again.*
- *Black-throated Green Warbler. In the big willow. Second branch from the top.*
- *Great Blue Heron. Flying over the cattails.*
- *Pied-billed Grebe. Middle of the pond. By the lily pads.*

And for those hard-to-identify species, Elaine's well-worn bird book came in handy. "Ya, it's the Least Flycatcher, not the Willow Flycatcher."



A fellow birder indicates the underbrush where, just minutes earlier, he'd seen the Prairie Warbler (left); Elaine and Janet scanning for migrants (right).

Photos © MA Vanden Elzen

We headed for the meadow. A slow, rich whistle filled the air. Baltimore Oriole. Entering the woods from Stirling Ave., it wasn't long before we encountered two blue-masked (for COVID) birders.

- *Have you seen the Prairie Warbler?*

- *No. Where?*

- *Just around the bend. In the shrub beside the path.*

We hurried along. But, no. Gone. And I quietly thought to myself, "Prairie Warbler. Why is everyone so excited about seeing a Prairie Warbler?"

We continued along, scanning with our binoculars, honing in on all the honks, warbles, caws, twitters, tweets, calls, chips and peeps. We quickly added to our growing list of sightings.

Up ahead was a group of birders. A family, this time:

- *Have you seen the Prairie Warbler?* the father asked.

- *No, we keep missing it.*

- *Look! It's there, in those brambles,* the mother pointed.

Yaaayyy! Finally! Now, we, too, could share in all the excitement. Still, I wondered, "Prairie Warbler. What's the big deal?"

We rounded the north end of the pond where Red-winged Blackbirds trilled in the cattails. Bluejays and woodpeckers were our final sightings before ascending the hill to the main paved trail.

We three had had a wonderful outing, feeling privileged to see so many migrants choosing Lakeside to rest, feed, drink and refuel on their way through. For those which do not stay, we wished them bon voyage on their journey and happy landings at their final destination.

To each other, we said our goodbyes and on my walk home I quietly thought to myself, "What's so special about Prairie Warblers? I'm going to do some research and find out."



Like many warblers, the Prairie Warbler's underparts are yellow. It has a black line through the eye, another under the eye, and black stripes on its sides. When seen up close, chestnut markings may be visible on its back.

Photo © Fraser Gibson

What I found out

1. Prairie Warblers are an uncommon sight in Ontario. Estimates put them at fewer than 500 breeding pairs.
2. Of these, the largest numbers can be found north of here: along the south-east coast of Georgian Bay and north of Kingston.
3. Who named this bird? Most surprising of all, the Prairie Warbler doesn't even live in the Prairies! It prefers early succession woodland edges where vegetation is short and scattered and scrubby. Once trees become dense and full, it moves elsewhere. And, not to the prairies!

Ontario Nature Report

By Fraser Gibson

Celebrating 90 Years of Conservation Success

On June 12, Ontario Nature held its 2021 virtual [Annual General Meeting \(AGM\)](#) to celebrate nine decades of hard work and success. The event featured our popular online nature quiz, the annual Conservation Awards, a silent auction and a "Year in Review" presentation by Ontario Nature's Executive Director, Caroline Schultz. Leah Gerber received the Carl Nunn Media and Conservation Award for effective communication on conservation issues in the media. As a reporter for the Waterloo Region Record newspaper, she writes stories focusing on the Grand River Watershed.

Start Gardening for Birds Today



Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*) is a recommended shrub for Waterloo (zone 17).

[Birds Canada](#) has launched a brand new conservation initiative, [Gardening for Birds](#), which promotes the creation of nature-friendly gardens, benefiting birds across Canada. The website, videos, factsheets and other resources provide practical information to help Canadians protect birds and other wildlife. Your bird-friendly garden may also become a home for butterflies, bees and other pollinators. Gardening is an excellent way to ensure that outdoor spaces help wildlife. Start gardening for birds today by visiting [BirdGardens.ca](#)!

Introducing the Climate Legacy Project

[Climate Legacy](#) is an initiative to mobilize older Canadians in climate action through their voices, their time and their money. It provides helpful resources for seniors wanting to do more, and features inspiring stories of environmental organizations with a strong senior base from across Ontario. The goal of Climate Legacy is to empower seniors interested in climate action who are often overlooked in current environmental mobilizing efforts. Check out the project website (www.climatelegacy.ca/) to learn more, or subscribe to the newsletter for monthly updates and stories about ongoing climate action in Ontario.



A Shared Vision for Protected Places in Ontario

The Government of Ontario has announced its intention to expand the province's protected areas, and has appointed a working group to give advice on opportunities for protection. Ontario Nature is contributing to the effort with the creation of a collective, interactive [StoryMap](#), showcasing some of the special places that the people of Ontario would like to see protected for future generations.

We Are Urging Immediate Action on Plastics

Ontario Nature has joined 28 environmental and health organizations to urge the Government of Canada to immediately add plastic manufactured items to the list of toxic substances included in Schedule 1 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act. This listing is a necessary first step to enact regulations through the act to prohibit the sale and use of harmful plastic products while working towards achieving Canada's goal of zero plastic waste by 2030. You can read our joint letter [here](#).

Meet the WRN Board of Directors!



Janet Ozaruk—President

I'm excited to start my second go-round as President and look forward to reconnecting in person with our membership. I find every aspect of nature - from aquatic invertebrates to the spring warbler migration - fascinating, meditative, and ultimately leads to more questions.



David Gascoigne—Past President

Coming up on ten years membership in the club, I am happy to be a part of it all. All of nature appeals to me, but birds have been ingrained in my psyche for so long, my daughter says that I get the shakes if I don't see one for an hour! She could be right!



**Jason Earle—
Publicity Director**

Amateur birdwatcher and all around nature enthusiast. Passionate about conservation and our obligation to look after the environment.



Levi Moore—Conservation Director

I'm an outdoor and environmental educator with the Waterloo Region District School Board, father of two girls and passionate tinkerer. I love exploring wild places in search of the sublime and feel an urgency in protecting what little wilderness is left to us.



Paul Bigelow—Treasurer

A retired computer guy, long time member (where did the time go?) and often the one taking care of things behind the scenes to keep us going. Still trying to learn my birds and plants if I could only remember their names.



**Jenna Quinn—Vice
President**

Conservation biologist especially interested in snakes, salamanders, and butterflies. Too boisterous for bird watching, but love to exchange nature knowledge while hiking and exploring. This is the start of my second WRN board term, and I also serve as editor of The Heron.



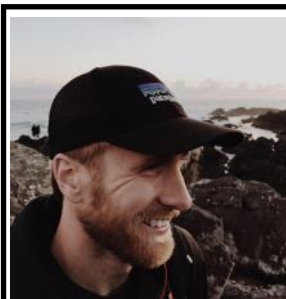
**Shannon Pennington
—Outings Director**

After a 20 year break, I'm happy to be re-joining the WRN board and to be assisting with this amazing group of passionate and knowledgeable naturalists. I live in Waterloo, have 2 great kids and am a graduate of biology and environmental studies from Laurier and UW. I currently work in experiential education at Laurier and my favourite activities are hiking and skiing.



**Jeremy Bannon—
Secretary**

Certified Arborist and Ecologist by trade, I love working to find solutions when people and the rest of nature cross paths (which of course is everywhere and always).



**Zack Stevens—
Membership Director**

Looking for ways to deepen my connection with nature, I was introduced to WRN and quickly came to appreciate the wisdom and camaraderie of our membership. I am grateful to have been welcomed into the club and am happy to be paying it forward as Membership Director.



**Snehaa
Suryanarayanan—
Program Director**

I am an international student from Chennai, India and I recently graduated from the sustainability management program at the University of Waterloo. I have always been extremely passionate about environmental causes and used to write frequently for environmental blogs in India (see Environmentalist Foundation of India blog: Lakes of India). I am also an animal lover and used to volunteer regularly at animal aid organizations back in India. So, when I saw the opportunity to volunteer at WRN I knew had to take it. Since I have been here I have learned so much about the local ecology here at Waterloo from all the wonderful members and the board. I hope to contribute more in the future.

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

Objectives of WRN

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:

Advertisement Size	Per issue	Full year (3 issues)
Full Page	\$200	\$520
Half Page	\$100	\$260
Quarter Page	\$50	\$130
One-tenth Page (business card)	\$25	\$65

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