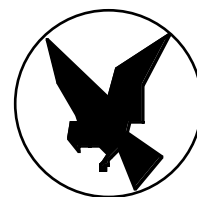


EARTHWAYS[©]



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Gordon Catterson - Editor

Modris Zandbergs- Distribution

March, 2010

Cheryl Veary-Webmaster

Website: www.lambtonwildlife.com

All indoor programs are open to the public and are held on the last Monday of the month, from September to November and January to March at the YMCA Learning & Career Centre 660 Oakdale Avenue at 7:30 pm. Articles in Earthways represent the views of the author and not necessarily the views of Lambton Wildlife Inc.

Indoor Program

March 29, 2010

Front Yard Gardens: Growing More Than Grass

Liz Primeau, the highly respected and well known author of numerous books on gardening, including the best seller Front Yard Gardens, founding editor of Canadian Gardening magazine and the former host of Canadian Gardening Television on HGTV, will be our speaker. She has long been the leader of the turf the turf movement. She preaches the mantra of biodiversity and the beneficial transformation that occurs when you replace an expanse of lawn with plants that attract birds & butterflies.

THIS INDOOR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE SCITS AUDITORIUM*.

April 17, 2010.

L.W.I. Annual General Meeting and Banquet-Mandaumin United Church Hall.

Business meeting and elections at 4:30, bucket draw opens at 5:00, with the delicious turkey dinner, with homemade fruit pies, to be served at 6:00 pm. Guest speaker will be Winnifred Wake of the Mcllwraith Field Naturalists of London, talking about chimney swifts, mysterious little birds in big trouble...a threatened species. Winnifred was the force behind the amazing project in London to learn more about nesting and roosting habitat of chimney swifts: Swift Watch.

*Note change of venue.

Sale of Tickets for 2010 AGM/Banquet:

The tickets still only \$15.00 each for a fabulous country-cooked turkey dinner with homemade pies. The tickets will be available at the March 29th meeting at SCITS. We recommend highly that you get your tickets before the March 29th meeting at SCITS as there will be a lot going on that night.

Contact: Alexia Gladdy 519-337-6483
or

Joan DiFruscia 519-332-0830

We are also looking for donations for the AGM bucket draw, Contact Krista Cowieson at 519-869-6409 to arrange for them.

Outdoor Program

Please note: - All youth under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult on the outings.

- Items marked with an * are or can be a half day only.

*Howard Watson Nature Trail Clean-Up

Sunday, April 18, 2010

Meet: 9:00 a.m. at Modeland and Cathcart trail entrance.

Inquiries: Gord Catterson 337-1246

*Highway 402 Clean-up

Saturday, April 24, 2010.

Meet at 8:45 am at Wawanosh Wetlands parking lot.

Inquiries: Joe Haselmayer 542-2826

*Native Plant Sale

Saturday, May 1, 2010.

Time: 8:00 a.m. to Noon

Location: 1267 Lakeshore Road

Attract birds and butterflies to your yard by planting native wildflowers. See. p 4

Organizer: Brenda Kulon 869-2833

Walks into Spring 2010.

Wednesdays, May 5, May 12 and May 19, 2010

Spring warbler walks with Gerry Clements: Canatara Park

Meet: 6:00 p.m. at the entrance to Tarzanland.

Camping in Point Pelee — May 2010

A joint program this year with Sydenham Field Naturalists.

Paul Carter and Larry Cornelis to organize. See p. 8

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Greetings from the President

On a cold but bright wintery Saturday morning in late January a group of about 28 hardy souls went for "A Walk in the Woods" - Bickford Oak Woods that is. It was a joint outing of Lambton Wildlife (LWI) and Sydenham Field Naturalists (SFN) to explore the beaver lodges, Heron rookery, and Wood duck boxes located within the swamp.

It turned out to be an excellent day to do so, as the snow was not deep enough to impede our progress along an old logging trail that led into the swamp, and the ice was frozen solid enough to afford passage into the areas we wanted to go. Otherwise, it can be quite a challenge to venture deep into the bush.

It was especially nice to see that included within the group were nine or ten youngsters of various ages. It is so important that the love of nature be fostered amongst our young people so that hopefully this appreciation of nature will carry on as they get older.

Tom Chatterton of SNF and Larry Cornelis of LWI acted as group guides and leaders and general resource gurus to point out things of interest, to answer questions and to explain the nature of the projects being carried out by the naturalists. As usual, both Tom and Larry were fonts of knowledge of all things flora and fauna.

The previous week, Tom and Larry had taken advantage of the good weather while it was available to go in and clean out the wood duck boxes. As we have seen this winter, weather can change rather abruptly so it was imperative that they get in to do the job while conditions were favorable.

They had saved the contents of one of the boxes so we were able to get an idea of how the boxes are prepared to entice wood ducks to use them and also the pellet remains left behind by screech owls that are quite willing to inhabit the boxes themselves.

If you have never attended a winter outing, you might want to consider giving one a try. LWI intends to introduce some new winter activities next year which should generate a lot of interest.

The ability to offer a variety of interesting and informative outdoor programs is one of the great strengths of LWI as a nature club. We have within our ranks any number of members whose breadth of knowledge covers a wide spectrum of nature topics - plants, flowers, butterflies, trees, birding, etc. - that they are most willing to share.

Of course this expertise is not limited to our outdoor programs. If you attended our February indoor meeting you will already know that our guest speaker, Sean Fox, had to cancel his appearance because of a winter storm and the resulting treacherous driving conditions between Guelph and Sarnia. (We hope to have Sean's presentation at another time.)

Fortunately, long-time LWI member Gerry Clements, volunteered to step forward to fill the gap and to show his amazing and beautiful photographs of the flowers of Lambton County. Thanks to Gerry for his presentation.

Don't forget that the next indoor meeting featuring expert gardener Liz Primeau will be held March 29, 2010 7:30 pm at the SCITS auditorium-not the YMCA centre. You won't want to miss this. Come and bring a friend or family member with you and introduce them to the many programs LWI has on offer.

Also, tickets for LWI's AGM are now on sale. Seating is limited so get your tickets now and reserve your seat.

Richard Maxfield

Indoor Program:

Liz Primeau presentation: Front Yard Gardens: Growing More Than Grass. Monday, March 29, 2010. Getting Liz Primeau to speak to Lambton Wildlife is a real coup. Liz is one of Canada's best known gardeners and writers. She was the founding editor of Canadian Gardening magazine and host of her own television program. Her most recent book is Front Yard Gardens: Growing More Than Grass, published by Firefly Books.

We have bumped up the importance of her presentation by changing the venue from our regular meeting place at the YMCA Learning & Career Centre, capacity about 120 persons to the SCIT's auditorium (Sarnia Collegiate Institute & Technical School), capacity 650-700 on main floor & 100 in the balcony. We are working on a marketing plan to ensure that we have maximum attendance. I urge ALL members to attend this program event. Tell your gardening friends about it. Tell your neighbours who you hope will spruce up their front yard about it. We are hoping to have people change how they look upon their front yards. This will be a quiet way of furthering our mandate: to increase habitat and reduce unproductive monoculture.

Judges Needed!

Submitted by Paul Elliott, School of Education and Professional Learning, Trent University Otonabee College

As you may already know, the Canada-wide Science Fair is being hosted by Trent University this year: 17-19 May. Part of my role as one of the senior judges is to recruit as many judges as possible. We need about 400! This is far more than we will be able to recruit from the Peterborough area alone.

Any one who is interested in helping should contact the chief judge, Brian Patrick:
ChiefJudge2010@gmail.com or call 705-748-1011 ext 7804 (work) or 705-876-6574 (home).
http://www.ontarionature.org/eblast/CWSF_call_for_judges.pdf

**For people that need to travel a long way, locally based judges will provide accommodation.

2010 Youth Summit for Biodiversity

Submitted by Lenore Nadeau, Ontario Nature



Ontario Nature will be hosting a two-day Summit for 100 high school-aged students from June 4th to June 6th. The 2010 Youth Summit for Biodiversity will bring youth together from across the province to learn about biodiversity and taking action to ensure a healthy planet for generations to come. The Summit will also provide a variety of learning opportunities, networking opportunities, hands-on activities, and fun.

We invite our member clubs to share information about the Summit with any young people who are involved in club activities or who may be interested in learning more about the importance of biodiversity. For more details about the Summit contact Gabe Camozzi at gabec@ontarionature.org or by phone at 416-444-8419 ext. 241.

Ontario Nature AGM: 2010:

Through the initiative of Brenda Lorenz, the area nature organizations have agreed to sponsor the 2010 AGM of Ontario Nature. This conference is hosted by Lambton Wildlife Incorporated, Friends of Pinery Park, Sarnia Urban Wildlife Committee and the Sydenham Field Naturalists, in partnership with Carolinian Canada Coalition and Ontario Nature. It is an event not to be missed!

Exploring our Watersheds Conference

Lambton College and Inn, Sarnia, Ontario

We invite you to join us for our 3-day conference, "Exploring Our Watersheds" at Lambton College, Sarnia on May 28th-30th, 2010. This major conservation event will showcase the rich diversity of Carolinian Canada's coasts and Lambton County's watersheds through a variety of presentations, workshops, field trips, and a special evening cruise on the St. Clair River. Registration is now open.

2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity and this conference is a great opportunity to highlight this special part of Ontario, while sharing, learning and experiencing all that Lambton's World Class Natural Areas in Carolinian Canada have to offer. Be sure not to miss an exciting discussion on "Coastal Greenways & the Big Picture in Carolinian Canada" on Friday, May 28th, a great overview of some local and provincial initiatives dedicated to maintaining southern Ontario's biodiversity!

Program includes:

Stewarding Carolinian Coasts- Find out what's new in managing rare species, coastal ecosystems and biodiverse hotspots.

Exploring Lambton Waters- Meet experts in birding, wetland restoration, rare mussels and more.

Participating in hands-on workshops- Geocaching, woodcarving, naturalized landscaping, restoring habitat and social marketing.

Cruising the St. Clair River- and guided field trips to Carolinian Canada signature sites including Walpole Island, Pinery Provincial Park, Rock Glen and more.

A Lifetime of Aquatic Adventure — Hear keynote speaker Jack Imhof, a distinguished ecologist with Trout Unlimited Canada, talk of the rich diversity of southern Ontario's rivers while dining on locally-grown food.

For more information

www.carolinian.org 519-433-7077 conference@carolinian.org

www.ontarionature.org 1-800-440-2366 ext.240 barbaraw@ontarionature.org

Take advantage of the Early Bird discount and register by April 15th, 2010. Check out the Conference "Programme at a Glance" at www.ontarionature.org and www.carolinian.org/AGM-2010.htm. Online registration is also available.

We look forward to extending our famous Bluewater Hospitality to you. See you there!

Attention: LWI Native Plant Sale

Attention all gardeners and all good citizens:

May 1, 2010 is the date of Lambton Wildlife Annual Native Plant Sale. It runs from 8-12 noon at 1267 Lakeshore Road. Lambton Wildlife members we need your help!

We need people to :

1. Label plants on May 24, 2010 Call Barb @ 542-5788
2. Check their gardens in spring cleanup and separate your plants, putting aside some for LWI. Call Brenda Kulon @ 869-2833
3. Donate native plants from your gardens or woodlots .Call Brenda @869-2833
4. Help pot our plants Call John Teasel @ 542-5788
5. Take down the display at 12 noon on Saturday May 1. 2010. Call Brenda at 869-2833
6. Take pamphlets home and place them in your neighbours mailboxes, post offices, grocery stores, community centre, and churches. Call Floyd Elliott @ 337-7653.
7. Speak at your local horticultural meetings, coffee clubs, bowling teams, fitness groups etc about our plant sale. Call Brenda @ 869-2833
8. Buy plants for those who cannot make it to the plant sale.
9. Take plants and store some for the summer for next year call John @ 542-5788 or Brenda @869-2833
10. Keep an eye open for new housing developments that will be uprooting native plants, and report them to Brenda at 869-2833.
11. Look on your property or housing developments for ostrich fern or maiden hair fern. We need it . Call John 542 5788 or Brenda 869-2833
12. Join a work party that will be saving some plants from destruction or housing developments. Call John@ 542-5788
13. Help sell plants on the day of the sale. Call Brenda @ 869 2833
14. Donate soil or posts call John @ 542-5788
15. Make a donation, even if you do not want any plants.

If you can help us in any of the above ways, please call Brenda@ 869-2833.

Money from the plant sale goes to saving and purchasing environmentally sensitive land sites in Lambton County.

Thank you for your help.
Brenda Kulon

Published in first Dec. 2009 Issue of Parkhill Gazette, Forest Standard and Lakeshore Advance

December '2009

Destroying our remaining 'Gems of Nature' is no longer cool...

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) and conservation of our environmentally sensitive lands such as the Ausable River Valley from Arkona to Sylvan, the Parkhill Conservation Area, and the Dunes & Wetlands along the southeastern tip of Lake Huron between Grand Bend and Kettle Point simply do not make for a harmonious partnership. These fragile natural areas on the northern fringes of the Carolinian Eco-zone represent some of the rarest of their kind, not just in Canada, but in the world. It is time to get serious about protecting these remaining 'Gems of Nature' while they are still in a somewhat natural state.

The forested dunes northwest of Hwy # 21 at Northville and in Upperwash have been ravaged by trespassing ATV's. In the extensive ravines northeast of the Parkhill Reservoir and in the Ausable River Valley south of Sylvan, the Ausable-Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) provides a playground for the Ausable River Riders ATV Club. A network of deep-rutted ATV trails has fragmented these environmen-

tally sensitive areas and makes ABCA's motto 'Building Better Environmental Conscience' seem so very hollow.

Recently the Federal Government made a \$17,300 matching contribution to the Ausable River Riders Club to 'revitalize' their trails in the Ausable River Valley so that their machines don't bottom-out in the deep ruts of their own creation. The money would have been better spent to help adjacent landowners keep the intimidating ATV trespassers off their land and to support those who protect our most critical Natural Heritage in Lambton Shores and Middlesex North. The Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT), Lambton Wildlife Inc., and the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) have worked hard to raise funds and protect special areas like Joany's Woods at Sylvan, the Karner Blue Sanctuary, the Port Franks Forested Dunes, and others. It is not nearly enough. Why not visit their websites - membership in these organizations and support for their work probably offers the best hope to save the remaining natural places in our neighbourhood for future generations

My vision of aligning the political boundaries of counties with the natural watershed boundaries of conservation authorities in the Lake Huron watershed may be sensible, but for now too far ahead of its time. The Ausable River Valley, the Parkhill Conservation Area and the Dunes & Wetlands

along the southeastern tip of Lake Huron are substantial 'Cores of Green' which joined by 'Corridors of Green' or natural buffer-strips along the waterways can create an enlarged wildlife habitat in our region. This concept also may be sensible, but for now also too far ahead of its time.

It is time however, for all of us to work in closer harmony with nature. It is time for ABCA's Board of Directors to follow the lead of the Toronto & Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and outlaw ATV's from all its properties - for ATV Clubs to take the lead and voluntarily avoid these fragile areas - for our municipal councilors, planners, and local developers to arrest the sprawl of subdivisions and trailer parks into these rare natural environments - for local residents, students, and our politicians to hike through these natural treasures, to see the destruction for themselves, and to become 'Recruits for Nature' in our own backyard.

Klaus Keunecke A volunteer for Nature

Grand Bend, Ontario (519) 243-1722

Potentially Largest Chromite Mine in World:

In July 2008, Premier Dalton McGuinty said, "Although the Northern Boreal has remained virtually undisturbed since the retreat of the glaciers, change is inevitably coming to these lands. We need to prepare for development and plan for it. It's our responsibility as global citizens to get this right, and to act now."

Today, U.S. iron-ore giant Cliffs Resources, together with Canada Chrome, plan to develop a \$1.5 billion chromite mining operation in the Ring of Fire, which will make this the largest chromite mine in the world – chromite is used to make stainless steel.

We want to keep you informed about this extremely important issue. Last month, Ontario Nature staff met with Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry and also with his senior policy advisors. We appreciate that the Minister took the time to talk to us about the Ring of Fire, an approximately 20,000-hectare area in the James Bay Lowlands where more than 8,000 mining claims have now been made.

Local people report that the exploration camps are littered with garbage and dozens of fuel tanks have disappeared into the surrounding bogs.

The James Bay Lowlands are a wildlife sanctuary, home to many at-risk species such as lake sturgeon, bald eagles, short-eared owls and woodland caribou. The northern boreal is now the primary habitat for many species that have been pushed out of more southern regions because of industry – logging, mining and hydro development. The boreal ecoregion is also a huge carbon storehouse. Unchecked development here would destroy wildlife habitat, contaminate nearby lakes, rivers and soil, and damage a globally-significant carbon bank.

What we have learned so far:

- Neither the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry nor the Ministry of Natural Resources has overseen or coordinated any planning for the mining activity in the Ring of Fire.

- Exploration activities have been allowed to proceed before the government and partner groups can determine which parts of the boreal region will be protected and before plans for sustainable and equitable projects can be formulated.

- First Nations communities mounted a blockade in January on two airstrips used by mining companies in protest of the exploration activities on traditional lands.

- At least one lake in the area, McFauld's Lake, has been contaminated from mining companies dumping raw sewage, grey water, fuel and chemicals into the water. Why has the Province allowed mining companies unfettered access to pristine habitat that is supposed to be part of a larger region considered for protection?

On your behalf and on behalf of Ontario's wild species and wild spaces, we will continue to monitor the situation in the Far North. We are determined that the provincial government protect the northern boreal as promised. Sustainability and conservation, not large-scale industrial projects without meaningful oversight, must guide land use in the James Bay Lowlands.

We will continue to speak up for nature.

TTLT AGM:

As a member of the Thomas Talbot Land Trust I recently received the notice for their annual general meeting. It is scheduled for Thursday, April 8th at 7:00 pm at the Somerset Room of the Stoneridge Inn and Conference Centre 6675 Burtwistle Lane in London. Registration and viewing of displays is at 7 pm, the AGM is at 7:30 pm and at 8:00 pm Clint Jacobs of Walpole Island will be speaking on the new Walpole Island Land Trust.

LWI members will recall that Clint talked at our indoor meeting on September 29th, 2008 (yes, it really was that long ago) about the natural areas of Walpole Island and its' five major ecological regions there. He discussed the various strategies being pursued to raise awareness of their importance within the community.

Clint will be speaking about the communities of Walpole Island and their new land trust which is the first and only First Nation land trust in Canada. Members may recall that Lambton Wildlife Incorporated was instrumental in assisting Clint in establishing this land trust by offering advice and donating up to \$15,000 to kick off their fund raising efforts. Also Larry Cornelis and Tom Chatterton agreed to assist Clint in the process of finding other potential sponsors and how to go about the process as they have gone through it themselves with the Sydenham Field Naturalists.

The initial piece of land that the land trust is working to protect was visited by LWI board members in October. It is home to some extremely rare species of plants and in particular white prairie gentian, believed to grow nowhere else in Canada. This talk should be a very interesting update on how Clint has progressed in this important work. The Stoneridge Inn is located south of highway #401 on highway 4.

Gord Catterson

Wind Turbines Revisited:

I published two articles on wind turbines back in the April 2008 issue. One was by Alf expressing his concern relating to their potential danger to birds and bats. The other was a reprint from an investment newsletter I receive which looked at them in a more dispassionate way, a kind of macro view of turbines and examining their pros and cons.

Just recently I came across another article on them published in The National Post. It approaches them with a more micro view. It was written by Henk Tennekes who is an aeronautical engineer and the former research director of the Dutch National Weather Service.

The article intrigued me as an engineer as it approaches the subject from a technical standpoint rather than the broader aspect pertaining to their cost, aesthetics, bird threat etc. He begins by saying that "wind energy is an engineers's nightmare" and proceeds to explain why.

For starters he says that wind energy has a "miserably low" density. Water on the other hand has a very high energy density due to its much greater weight per unit of volume. For example the potential energy that flows under the Bluewater bridges is many, many times the potential energy of an equivalent volume of air. As a result a lot of very large machines covering a very large area are required to capture wind energy while water turbines are of course much smaller. As indicated in the previous article about 20 acres would be adequate to accommodate a 1,000 megawatt power plant powered by gas or coal, while it would require 2,000 square miles of wind turbines to generate the same amount.

Another drawback is that wind turbines have to be designed for a quite narrow range of wind speeds. The author indicates that if they are designed for 34 miles per hour they are useless below about 22 miles per hour and have to be feathered above 44 mph as they become very dangerous at such speeds. He pointed out that the traditional windmills used in Holland to pump water required a 2 man crew all the time they were operating in case there was a sudden pick up in wind speed. If not stopped a runaway windmill would overheat its bearings in short order, burn up the wooden gears and then the whole wooden structure would burn. He said that a typical historical windmill generated perhaps 15 horsepower, equivalent to a small gas fired engine such as a riding lawnmower.

Due to the unpredictable nature of wind turbines it is essential that they are backed up by conventional power, a point made clear in the earlier article. Since the backups average only about half power most of the time they are terribly inefficient and he points out that only at full power do they have good efficiency.

He also talks about the problems of freezing rain, collection of dust and bugs and other debris on the leading edges of laminar flow turbine blades. As well the synchronization of these systems is a very difficult task when alternating currents of 100,000 volts or more must be within phase of less than one degree. If not circuit breakers pop and brownouts occur. In Germany wind power is given absolute priority over all other forms of electrical power generation

creating dangerous, almost uncontrollable instabilities when the winds begin to blow. He goes on to say that power plant operators literally sweat blood in these circumstances. He concludes by saying that wind power is a green mirage of the worst possible kind. While it looks green to the uninitiated it is a technical nightmare to operate. He says he has visited wind farms all over the world and has never seen a large wind farm operating properly. Invariably 20% are idle, broken down. How often have you driven by the turbines near Ravenswood and seem them all operating? They are not shut down because they aren't needed, but because they are broken. He calls wind turbines "green daydreaming". He rather plaintively wonders why politicians don't listen to engineers. The answer is obvious, objective science is usually not politically sexy.

Gord Catterson

February Indoor Meeting:

Unfortunately our scheduled speaker for this meeting, Sean Fox, was unable to make it to Sarnia from Guelph. Fortunately Gerry Clements did an admirable job of filling in for him. In spite of a heavy accumulation of snow over the course of the day about 40 people did manage to attend and enjoy Gerry's pictures.

Gerry is one of seven founding members of Lambton Wildlife and all seven were recognized many years ago with Honourary Life Memberships. Last year Gerry was also recognized with the Meritorious Service Award LWI's highest honour after Honourary Life Membership. The only other founding members so recognized were Dennis & Sue Rupert (now deceased). This recognition is unlikely to ever be repeated.

Gerry spent most of the next hour going through his collection of pictures of flowers which he has accumulated over the years. Although just a small portion of his extensive collection these were some of his best work assembled on a CD. The pictures were taken at a variety of locations including the Bruce Peninsula, Pinery Provincial Park, north of Port Huron, the Ausable Valley, the Hay Swamp and various other locations throughout Lambton County.

Some early spring flowers he showcased included harbinger of spring, bloodroot, herb Robert, geranium and the scarlet cup mushroom. This last picture was taken at the LWI property, Mandaumin Woods. Some uncommon to rare plants included white trout lily, some unusual trilliums (including nodding, four leafed and painted), Canada violet, oyster plant (uncommon in Lambton County), bristly sarsaparilla, prickly pear cactus (found on Point Pelee), picture plant and round leaf and narrow leaf sundew (which trap and digest insects), blue hearts found at Ipperwash, pink yarrow, hoary vervain, Sullivants' milkweed, bottle gentian, goldthread (a member of the buttercup family which he found north of Port Huron) and the rare small white lady's slipper found on Walpole Island.

The pitcher plants which are uncommon here are found fairly commonly on Manitoulin Island and is the Newfoundland & Labrador provincial flower. A few summers ago my daughter, granddaughter and I visited Newfoundland and went on a nature hike with a park interpreter near Gros Morne. He had a bunch of pipettes which he handed out to the children and had them suck up the water laying in the pitcher plants to show how the plant traps the insect and then obtains nourishment by digesting the insect providing protein.

Gerry also showed beautiful pictures on many common plants which most people know. These were plants such as yellow trout lily, wild columbine, marsh marigold, trillium, Jack-in-the pulpit, Indian paint brush, Deptford pink, common speedwell, St. Johnswort, water lily, cardinal flower, turtlehead, harebell, thistle, yellow lady's slipper and pussy willow.

Other flowers he showed included dwarf ginseng, wood sorrel, Canada violet, yellow goatsbeard, tufted loosestrife, yellow water buttercup, pucoon (two types found at the Pinery), bog buckhorn, bird's eye primrose, dwarf lake iris (found at Dorcas Bay on the Bruce Peninsula), Oswego tea (grows in deep muck), Michigan lily, Labrador teas (which attracts butterflies), Indian tobacco, great blue lobelia, white baneberry, tall meadow-rue (another buttercup found in Canatara's Tarzanland), blue cohosh, and gerardia. The pucoon (two types) are also found on the Howard Watson Nature Trail between Modeland Road and Blackwell Side Road including the hairy and very rare fringed pucoon.

He also showed some great photographs of several orchids, many found on the Bruce Peninsula. They included early coral root, striped coralroot, broad leaved twayblade, Loesel's twayblade, ragged fringed orchid, calypso orchid, ram's head orchid, green adders mouth, tall white bay orchid, grass-pink (calapogon) and showy lady's slipper.

Finally Gerry concluded by showing some other unusual photographs of some spiders, a wood frog, some unusual winterscapes, maple leaves in fall, and a bright red plant called British soldiers taken in the Ausable Valley.

All in all an excellent presentation. It's nice to know that Gerry is still very much active in LWI.

Gord Catterson

Carolinian West Spring 2010 Regional Meeting

Our Carolinian West Spring regional meeting is fast approaching – it's taking place March 27th. at Rondeau Provincial Park.

Start Time: Our meeting will commence at 10:00 AM but I would encourage people to arrive around 9:30 to spend some time informally networking. This will also give me a chance to meet and chat with you before our day starts.

Resource Table: If you have any resources you'd like to share, please bring them along. I will also be bringing some resources from Ontario Nature with me.

Attendance: I encourage each group to have their Club Representative attend, as well as another person from their group. These meetings are a wonderful opportunity to meet other naturalists and share ideas among our network. And as I mentioned above, it would be great to meet you in person!

If you have questions do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Cheers,

Lenore

Lenore Nadeau

Manager, Nature Network and Youth Programs

Ontario Nature

366 Adelaide Street West, Suite 201

Toronto ON M5V 1R9

Tel: 416-444-8419 ext. 222

Toll free: 1-800-440-2366

Fax: 416-444-9866

mailto:lenoren@ontarionature.org

www.ontarionature.org

Check out ON Nature magazine's new website! Please visit us online at onnaturemagazine.com. You can comment on stories, join a discussion group, submit your favourite photos and more. We'd love to hear from you!

----- CUT AND MAIL -----

To help us serve you better

please circle or check (optional):

Age Groups: Under 12 12-20 20-40 40-60
60-80 over 80 or M. Y. O. B.

Interests: Birds Flowers Animals Insects
Fungi Fish Trees
Conservation Environment
Other _____

Activities: Hiking Camping Bicycle Riding
Canoeing Walking Talking
Writing Cross Country Skiing
Other _____

Might be willing to:

Serve on Committee
Chair Committee
Serve on Board
Act as LWI Representative
Come to Indoor Meetings
Go on Outings
Participate in Slide Show
Be an Advisor

Other Information to Share with LWI:

Need transportation to meetings _____
Special skills or work experience _____

Camping at Point Pelee:

Thursday, May 13 to Monday, May 17.

Point Pelee is one of North America's top birding hotspots for spring migration. For many years, Lambton Wildlife has arranged for inexpensive camping within Point Pelee National Park. The camping is very close to the interpretative centre and the tram to the Point. It is the only place in the Park where camping is permitted and only a few spots are available. The amenities are just fine: a covered eating area, drinking water and flush toilets (and an outdoor shower for the hearty). In the past we have tried to be there before the usually incredible rush of bird watchers. However in recent years, the weather has been a bit cold and rainy. So this year, we tried for camping spots right at the usual peak of warbler migration and thanks to the efforts of Larry Cornelis and Paul Carter, we succeeded. This will be a joint outing with Sydenham Field Naturalists.

The camping will be from a Thursday, May 13 arrival to Monday, May 17 departure.

Cost will be \$64.00 for 4 days & nights. An amazing deal, compared to accommodation outside the Park. You will also have the benefit of birding with our LWI experts. That is a lot of fun. You will see birds that you won't see, or at least won't be able to identify if you don't bird with experts such as ours. Please make your reservations as soon as possible as space is limited. This has become a joint program with Sydenham Field Naturalists.

Contact: Larry Cornelis: 519-339-8785 or Paul Carter: 519-344-2571



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I recently received the following from Cathy Coates. Please contact her if this might belong to you. Ed.

Cathy Coates <burlcoat@yahoo.com>

Subject: Tripod found

Hello...I found a tripod in Canatara park and was wondering if it belonged to one of the members. Can a notation of this be put in your newsletter? They can contact me at <burlcoat@yahoo.com> with a description. Thank you in advance

Deadline for April issue is
Friday, April 2nd, 2010
 Please leave typed material or discs in
 mailbox
 at 502 Roosevelt Drive
 or email to:
 gpcatt@xcelco.on.ca

----- CUT AND MAIL -----

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail to : Lambton Wildlife Inc. Box 681 SARNIA, ON N7T 7J7



Name: _____

Address: _____ email _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Date : _____ Earthways via email? Yes _____ No _____

Membership fees: Single \$20 Family \$25 Young Naturalist \$15 (\$5 ea. add'l child) (Circle one)

Donation \$ _____ (Business number 11900 4620 RR0001) Total \$ _____