



Norfolk Field Naturalists

Annual Report 2008 - 2009

Norfolk Field Naturalists, P. O. Box 995, Simcoe, Ontario N3Y 5B3

The Norfolk Field Naturalists organization is dedicated to the acquisition and extension of knowledge of natural history and the appreciation, enjoyment and stewardship of natural environment, especially within the Counties of Norfolk and Haldimand. Established in 1962, NFN celebrated its 40th year in 2002.

NFN members participate in monthly meetings from September to May. Guest speakers present programs on interesting and relevant natural history and conservation topics. Field outings are held throughout the year with trips of local interest and significance. Junior naturalists are encouraged to participate with their families. Annual membership is \$20 Individual or \$30 for a Family. Donations to the NFN are appreciated; charitable receipts are issued for amounts exceeding \$10.00.

NFN has always taken leadership in public education and protection of our local natural treasures; actions taken include participation in recovery teams for various species at risk, restoration and preservation of habitat, participation in annual bird and butterfly counts and acting in an advisory capacity to local authorities and environmental planning groups.

Club members receive the Lotus, a newsletter with articles on our local history and club activities. The NFN has taken an active role in protecting local areas of natural significance by participating in planning exercises and helping other groups raise funds for land acquisition.

Directors are chosen / elected from the membership for a term of 1-3 years, renewed annually, and normally limited to a period of six years' consecutive service. One Honorary President and one or two Honorary Directors may be appointed by the Board in recognition of long and outstanding service to the NFN; they may be called upon by the Board to act in an advisory capacity. There is no limitation on the length of service in the honorary positions.

The NFN Directors for 2008 - 2009 were:

President (+ Field Events)	Audrey Heagy
Past President (+ Natural Areas)	Peter Carson
Vice-President	Tara Crewe
Treasurer	Lynda Kosalle
General Secretary	David Okines / (position currently vacant)
Board Secretary (+ Causeway)	Vivienne Heydorn / Elisabeth van Stam
Membership	Diane Salter
Speaker Program	Bernt (Bernie) Solymar
Publicity	Nina Cameron
Sanctuary	Matt Brock
Environment	(position currently vacant)
Dir. (+ Lakeshore Secondary Plan)	(position currently vacant)
Director-at-large	Colleen Dale
Director-at-large	Shirley Rothery
Lotus Editor (Board appointment)	Anne Davidson
Honorary President	Al Robinson
Honorary Director	Harry Barrett (NFN Founding Pres. - 1962)
Honorary Director	Jim Harlow

President's Report

2008 - 2009

Over the past year the Norfolk Field Naturalists continued to be proactive and effective in carrying out our mission of furthering the study, appreciation and conservation of our natural world. The indoor meeting program featured 8 excellent speakers on a wide range of topics, and also a dinner and movie night. In addition there were monthly field outings which were generally well attended except on various occasions when the weather didn't cooperate. The Club continued to sponsor two Christmas Bird Counts and a July Butterfly count. Data from these counts are contributed to international databases.

All NFN events were open to members and non-members alike. The community was kept informed of our events through our brochure, website, and local media. The NFN display was used at several events in our community. As a result, we increased awareness of our organization and gained several new members over the past year.

Unfortunately, we also lost some long term NFN members who had over the years made major contributions to our organization, our community, and our natural environment including:

- 1 **Doug Jenereaux** who was a dedicated volunteer often helping staff the NFN booth at the Fair and actively involved in various conservation projects.
- 2 **Mike Nemerovski** also was an active volunteer with a particular interest in trees – specifically the endangered American Chestnut tree – and he was very involved in efforts to develop blight-resistant native chestnut trees.

NFN was an active participant in several collaborative projects this past year. We heard tonight about one of these projects, the Great Tree Hunt. NFN partnered with the Long Point Basin Land Trust in 2009 to manage invasive plants that are impacting natural habitats at various areas in South Walsingham including the club's Rowanwood Sanctuary. Funding for that project was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Species at Risk Stewardship Fund. This year we also partnered with the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation to launch a local chapter of the Kids for Turtle program. This new project fills the gap left by the lack of an NFN's youth program and will help develop a new generation of naturalists.

Our achievements over the past year are the result of the contributions and dedication of many, many people. I'd like to say **Thank You** to:

- 1 Our **Board members** for capably fulfilling their duties and also helping out when I put out a call for volunteers
- 2 **Jane Thomson of Over the Moon** graphics in Port Rowan for producing our brochure and banner
- 3 **El March** for setting up our website.
- 4 **Anne Davidson** for editing the Lotus newsletter
- 5 **Linda Thrower** – Fisherville CBC
- 6 **David Okines** – Woodhouse CBC
- 7 **Doug Timpf** – Long Point Butterfly Count
- 8 **Mike McMillan and the many other NFN members** who participated in the Baillie Birdathon, either by going birding or by sponsoring a NFN birder. This year our **10** birders have raised **over \$18,000!**
- 9 And a special thank you for **Alex and Doris Landon** who have played a "key role" over the past many years making sure the doors of the Seniors Centre were always open for our member's meetings.

I would encourage everyone in the club to look for opportunities to get involved and contribute to the work of the NFN this year in any way you can.



Audrey Heagy
NFN President 2008 - 2009

Photo by: Anne Davidson

Norfolk Field Naturalists		
INCOME STATEMENT YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2009	2008-2009	2007-2008
REVENUE		
Membership Dues	3,470	3,790
Donations/ Fundraising/ Projects (See Note 1 below for details)	37,677	16,081
Investment Income (Interest)	<u>928</u>	<u>1,565</u>
GROSS REVENUE	42,075	21,436
DISBURSEMENTS		
Christmas Bird Count	200	200
Donations	0	2,000
Hall Rental	184	210
Insurance	943	575
Memberships (incl Lotus)	1,019	1,420
Norfolk Fair, Fundraising, Workshop, Xmas Dinner	1,855	1,105
Office Expense (incl Postage and Web)	859	1,268
Program Speaker	675	575
Publications	600	945
Securement & Protection	0	20,000
Special Conservation Projects (Great Tree Hunt, Karner Blue, IBA Exotic Removal)	25,899	5,000
GST Expense	<u>190</u>	<u>97</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	32,423	33,394
NET INCOME - Surplus, (Deficit)	9,653	(11,959)
Note 1 re Donations/Fundraising/Projects:		
Birdathon Income total	7,654	8,065
Membership Donations	1,683	1,020
Other Donations	625	715
Publications income (Books, Fair sales)-	940	131
St. Williams Burn Mgmt Strategy	0	5,000
Karner Blue Butterfly Income	4,000	0
The Great Tree Hunt	7,450	0
Norfolk IBA Exotic Removal	14,300	0
Other - Xmas Dinner, Coffee, Nature Cda	<u>1,025</u>	<u>1,150</u>
Total Donations/ Fundraising/ Projects	37,677	16,081

Norfolk Field Naturalists		
BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2009	2008-2009	2007-2008
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	22,950	21,864
Investments (GIC's)	40,173	39,245
Other Receivable (GST rebate)	<u>779</u>	<u>591</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	63,902	61,700
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Other Payable	0	0
Deferred Income (Badger 3k, St. Williams Burn 2k, Tree Hunt 7.5k, Bequest 2k)	14,550	22,000
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	14,550	22,000
EQUITY		
Accumulated Surplus at Beginning	39,700	51,659
Surplus (Deficit) this Period	9,653	(11,959)
Accumulated Surplus at End	49,352	39,700
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	63,902	61,700

<p>(A) Endowment - for Rowanwood Nature Reserve: Externally restricted funds - By agreement with the Ontario Heritage Foundation, NFN is the custodian and manager of this 97-acre reserve. The income from this GIC is used for the ongoing costs such as taxes, insurance and upkeep.</p> <p>(B) Securement and Protection: Funds committed to acquisition or protection of new nature reserves. These funds are retained over several years until enough resources are available for a targeted purchase/project. Internally restricted funds.</p> <p>(C) Youth Program Funds: Funds for educational programs and materials for youth.</p>	<p>Balance: 12,968</p> <p>Balance: 25,878</p> <p>Balance: 1,327</p> <p>Total Investments: 40,173</p>
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Thank You NFN Donors

NFN is a registered charity and donors receive a tax receipt for donations that exceed \$10.00. Donations may be specified for a specific purpose. When not specified, donations are used to support NFN's operating costs, special publications, or other projects, at the discretion of the Board. All expenses over \$1000 require prior approval of the membership.

We thank these members for their generosity in calendar year 2008.

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| Harry Barrett | Zeb Landon | Bill Read |
| Lynne Bradstreet | Lori Martin | Al Robinson |
| Patrick Brown | Peggy McArthur | Diane Salter |
| Peter Carson | Loretta McDonald | Alf Senior |
| Betty Chanyi | Alan McKeown | Shelia Smith |
| Mary Edmonds | Jay McKiee | Carol Snively-Skoblenich |
| Felicity Fawke | Michael McMillan | Susanne Stevens |
| Marie Grant | D. Murton | Kristen Thompson |
| S. Guthrie | Mike Nemerowski | Sheila Whitely |
| Susan Hildreth | George Pond | OPG Employees & |
| James Kranek | Dennis Price | Pensioners Charity Trust |

Charitable Registration # 119058691

Thank You NFN Birdathoners

The Birdathoners who designated NFN in 2008 raised a total of \$17,307.90 of which NFN received \$7,654 (refer financial income statement). For their enthusiasm and hard work, we thank:

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|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Betty Chanyi | Michael McMillan | Diane Salter |
| Helen Godschalk | George Pond | Jeff and Darlene Sauder |
| Peggy McArthur | Shirley Rothery | Anne Wynia |

Visit the NFN Website at: <http://www.norfolkfieldnaturalists.org/>