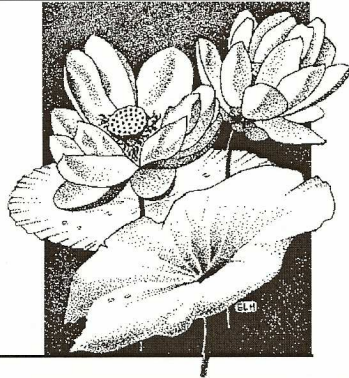


# Lotus

NEWSLETTER  
of the  
NORFOLK FIELD NATURALISTS



February 2011



## President's Message

Bernie Solymár

Happy New Year to all our members!

Reflecting back on 2010, I feel so optimistic about all the events and happenings that have had a positive impact on our local nature. Perhaps most significant was the purchase of Backus Woods by the Nature Conservancy of Canada, providing assurance to our children and their children that this significant acreage is preserved and protected in its natural state to serve as a very rare example of Carolinian forest and amazing biodiversity in Canada. And the NCC wasn't done yet! Before the new year rolled around they also entered into a conservation agreement with the Turkey Point Company to protect 2,800 acres of the marsh.

The Long Point Causeway Improvement Project Committee was also busy raising over \$400,000 to help reduce vehicle-caused road mortality of Species at Risk turtles and snakes along the 3.6 kilometre roadway and restoring water connections between Long Point Bay and the Big Creek Marsh. Norfolk County has agreed to undertake the necessary design, engineering and environment assessments to install three specially-designed culverts, known as ecopassages, which will allow wildlifes to pass safely under the roadway. One of the proposed culverts will be large enough to re-establish a natural waterway that once linked the marsh to the bay. These would be the first of as many as 11 ecopassages recommended in the Causeway Improvement Plan.

The Long Point Basin Land Trust was busy installing snake hibernacula on several properties and adding to their database of public reptile sightings. The Long Point Bird Observatory celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with Robert Bateman and over 300 members and supporters. When Nature Calls (formerly Kids for Turtles) cleaned up all the garbage on Long Point's beaches in September and continued to engage more children and families in nature-oriented activities. We saw our first Forest Fest, our first Butterfly and Dragonfly Festival and the first Research and Conservation Networking Forum, organized by the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve, which brought together 50 researchers and field staff to communicate their projects to each other.

And if all that isn't exciting enough here's a preview of 2011 – the Long Point World Biosphere Foundation celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, hosting the Canadian Biosphere Reserve Associations AGM in June and putting on a banquet featuring special guest speaker, Elizabeth May, leader of the Green Party. We have NatureFest in May, the Butterfly and Dragonfly Festival in July, and Forest Fest in August. Through numerous research and stewardship projects, nature outings, birding events, and who knows what future NCC purchases, it's already turning into another banner year for nature in this area. Aren't you glad you live in Norfolk?

Oh...almost forgot...the Norfolk Field Naturalists celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 212!! Stay tuned!

## January 2011 Meeting

### Costa Rica: A Naturalist's Dream Destination

Marg Werden (text and photos)

Almost three decades ago, the Central American country of Costa Rica, home to more than half a million species of plants and wildlife, was on the edge of environmental destruction.

In 1983, Costa Rica had the highest deforestation rate in the world with 1.2 million acres of forest being cleared annually. It was estimated that by 1997, the country would be totally deforested. That was when things began to change. Strict conservation practices were enacted, the amount of protected land was increased by creating national parks, wildlife refuges, and private biological preserves, and the country's dependence on foreign oil was decreased by finding alternative energy sources.

Seventy per cent of Costa Rica's power now comes from hydroelectric plants, 20 per cent from geothermal power – there are several active volcanoes in Costa Rica – and ten per cent comes from wind power.

In 1983, there were nine national parks and three private reserves in Costa Rica. Today the country boasts 161 national parks and wildlife refuges and 61 private biological preserves and the protected land has increased from eight per cent in 1983 to 31 per cent today.

In addition to helping the environment, the changes have improved the quality of life for Costa Ricans. Eco-tourism has boomed and brought social benefits such as improving the country's literacy rate, which is now at 96 per cent, one of the highest in Central America. Education is free for the first eleven years and students are encouraged to attend university with grants awarded to students with high marks. The drop-out rate has dropped from 28 per cent to four per cent.

There are six biological zones in Costa Rica resulting in diverse landscapes, flora, and fauna. Landscapes vary from rain forests, to dry tropical and temperate forests, to volcanoes, to Caribbean and Pacific beaches, to high mountains, and marshy lowlands. The dry tropical forest of the Pacific northwest, the area we visited, is characterized by a dry season that begins in late November and ends in late April. Last winter's dry season ended just days before we arrived



on May 1<sup>st</sup> and we had a short period of rain almost every day during our visit, but it usually arrived in heavy downpours and lasted only 15 to 20 minutes. Despite being called a tropical "dry" forest, the area receives about eight feet of rainfall annually. However, compared to other parts of Costa Rica, which receive up to 38 feet of rain a year, this area is relatively dry.

With such a prolonged dry period, trees have had to adapt to the lack of water. Most trees lose their leaves during this time, but some trees, such as members of the mimosa family, do not. They fold their leaves together during the heat of the day to protect themselves from insects, which are in search of a reduced food supply, and to reduce transpiration. Because they don't drop their leaves and can continue to grow year-round, they could out-compete other trees. However, some of those other trees, including teak and mountain ebony, also known as the "rainbow tree" have outsmarted the mimosas. In order produce chlorophyll and allow the tree to continue to grow without dehydrating, they peel their bark to expose new green bark during the dry season.

The annual dropping of leaves by the majority of the trees opens up the canopy layer and enables sunlight to reach ground level, which facilitates the growth of the underbrush. While the tropical dry forest is less biologically diverse than the rainforests, it is still home to a wide variety of flora and fauna.



***The Spectacled Owl is just one of many species that make their homes in the tropical dry forest of the Guanacaste region of Costa Rica.***

The rain forests and cloud forests, on the other hand, are green year-round. The main difference between rain forests and cloud forest is that there is no moss hanging from the trees in rain forests, while almost

every surface in the cloud forest is covered with moss. The Santa Elena Cloud Forest Reserve that we visited sits astride the continental divide and its location means it is affected by two converging air currents, one from the Pacific and the other the Gulf of Mexico. The two colliding air masses produce an almost-constant mist or light drizzle and form clouds of vapour.

This reserve teems with life; the wet and cloudy conditions provide an ideal habitat for both flora and fauna. In fact, scientists have already recorded more than 400 bird species, 121 mammal species, 140 reptile and amphibian species, and 1,000s of tree and plant species.

Nearby, man-made Arenal Lake sits at the base of the Arenal volcano. This lake is the largest lake in Costa Rica, produces seven per cent of the country's electricity and is an important recreation area offering year-round water activities.

Among the many species of birds that we saw on our visit to Costa Rica were Resplendent Quetzals, Keel-billed and Chestnut-mandibled Toucans, Scarlet Macaws, Montezuma Oropendolas, Parakeets, and a dozen different Hummingbirds. Other wildlife, including several species of iguanas, monkeys, and anteaters were also easily seen.



***The Northern Tamandua, or Collared Anteater, eats approximately 9,000 ants or termites a day***

Costa Rica is a beautiful country, a naturalist's dream, and a destination that should be put on everyone's must-visit list.

## Woodhouse CBC Results - 2010

David Okines, Compiler

These are the results of the Woodhouse CBC held on December 19th, 2010. The Woodhouse CBC is centered 7 km east of Simcoe, at Renton, in Norfolk County and roughly covers from Port Dover to Waterford and just east of Simcoe to Jarvis.

### Weather

The weather this year was good, it was mostly cloudy with some light snow flurries all day. The temperature was -5 all day with a light westerly wind.

Total Species: 82 (average for the last 23 years = 85)

Total Individuals: 26,158 (avg for last 22 years = 25,375) # of participants: 37

### NEW SPECIES TO THE COUNT

Lark Sparrow and Brewer's Blackbird

### RECORD HIGHS - (previous high)

Mute Swan - 6 (5)

Cooper's Hawk - 18 (11)

Wild Turkey - 379 (156)

Mourning Dove - 1445 (1325)

Eastern Screech-Owl - 64 (47)

Pileated Woodpecker - 5 (3)

Song Sparrow - 162 (77)

Snow Bunting - 2856 (1730)

Northern Cardinal - 352 (269)

Pine Siskin - 109 (105)

### RECORD LOW: (previous low)

Great Blue Heron - 1 (2) Average 6

### EQUAL BEST

Merlin - 1

Glaucous Gull - 1 three previous records

Red-bellied Woodpecker - 34

### COUNT WEEK SPECIES: None

### SPECIES WELL ABOVE AVERAGE (23 year avg.)

Canada Goose - 7522 (3446)

Common Merganser - 852 (372)

Cedar Waxwing - 205 (84)

American Tree Sparrow - 1929 (736)

Lapland Longspur - 28 (16)

### SPECIES WELL BELOW AVERAGE (23 year avg.)

Tundra Swan - 2 (58)

Mallard - 790 (1589)

Black Duck - 55 (103)

Redhead - 85 (1392)

Greater Scaup - 11 (3854)

American Kestrel - 19 (38)

Ring-billed Gull - 452 (1868)

Herring Gull - 40 (241)

Eastern Bluebird – 24 (35)  
 American Robin – 7 (13)  
 European Starling – 1692 (3132)  
 Red-winged Blackbird – 1 (26)  
 Brown-headed Cowbird – 13 (486)  
 House Finch – 183 (732)  
 American Goldfinch – 273 (328)  
 House Sparrow – 936 (1497)

**NOTABLE ABSENTEES**

Ruffed Grouse 2<sup>nd</sup> miss ever  
 Bonaparte's Gull 3<sup>rd</sup> miss ever  
 Purple Finch 3<sup>rd</sup> miss ever  
 Common Grackle 7<sup>th</sup> miss ever

**ALSO WORTHY OF MENTION**

Pied-billed Grebe – 1 (5<sup>th</sup> record)  
 Snow Goose - 1 (6<sup>th</sup> record)  
 Ruddy Duck – 23 (3<sup>rd</sup> best count)  
 Northern Goshawk – 1 (6<sup>th</sup> record)  
 Rough-legged Hawk – 41 (2<sup>nd</sup> best count (50 in 1989))  
 Ring-necked Pheasant – 2 (best count since 2001)  
 Wilson's Snipe – 1 (4<sup>th</sup> record)  
 Rock Pigeon – 838 (3<sup>rd</sup> best count))  
 Downy Woodpecker – 125 (best count since 1997)  
 American Pipit – 2 (6<sup>th</sup> record)  
 Rusty Blackbird – 4 (8<sup>th</sup> record)

**FULL SPECIES LIST AND TALLY**

Pied-billed Grebe 1  
 Great Blue Heron 1  
 Mute Swan 6  
 Tundra Swan 2  
 Canada Goose 7522  
 Snow Goose 1  
 Mallard 790  
 American Black Duck 55  
 Canvasback 2  
 Redhead 85  
 Greater Scaup 11  
 Lesser Scaup 260  
 Common Goldeneye 100  
 Bufflehead 106  
 Hooded Merganser 7  
 Common Merganser 852  
 Red-breasted Merganser 172  
 Ruddy Duck 23  
 Bald Eagle 3  
 Northern Harrier 14  
 Sharp-shinned Hawk 9  
 Cooper's Hawk 18  
 Northern Goshawk 1  
 Red-shouldered Hawk 1  
 Red-tailed Hawk 142  
 Rough-legged Hawk 41  
 American Kestrel 19

Merlin 1  
 Ring-necked Pheasant 2  
 Wild Turkey 379  
 Wilson's Snipe 1  
 Ring-billed Gull 452  
 Herring Gull 40  
 Glaucous Gull 1  
 Great Black-backed Gull 11  
 Rock Pigeon 838  
 Mourning Dove 1445  
 Eastern Screech-Owl 64  
 Great-horned Owl 12  
 Long-eared Owl 1  
 Belted Kingfisher 8  
 Red-bellied Woodpecker 34  
 Downy Woodpecker 125  
 Hairy Woodpecker 19  
 Yellow-shafted Flicker 12  
 Pileated Woodpecker 5  
 Northern Shrike 4  
 Blue Jay 405  
 American Crow 1049  
 Horned Lark 322  
 Black-capped Chickadee 556  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch 17  
 White-breasted Nuthatch 79  
 Brown Creeper 2  
 Carolina Wren 6  
 Winter Wren 2  
 Golden-crowned Kinglet 48  
 Eastern Bluebird 24  
 American Robin 7  
 Northern Mockingbird 4  
 European Starling 1692  
 American Pipit 2  
 Cedar Waxwing 205  
 American Tree Sparrow 1929  
 Song Sparrow 162  
 Lark Sparrow 1  
 Swamp Sparrow 17  
 White-throated Sparrow 25  
 White-crowned Sparrow 8  
 Slate-colored Junco 1125  
 Lapland Longspur 28  
 Snow Bunting 2856  
 Northern Cardinal 352  
 Red-winged Blackbird 1  
 Rusty Blackbird 4  
 Brewer's Blackbird 2  
 Brown-headed Cowbird 13  
 House Finch 183  
 Common Redpoll 1  
 Pine Siskin 109  
 American Goldfinch 273  
 House Sparrow 936

Please note that our speaker for May has changed. Join us for a very special presentation!



**Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
**Grass, Sky, Song**  
**Trevor Herriot**

Join Saskatchewan writer-naturalist, Trevor Herriot, for a slide-talk and reading based on his latest book, *Grass, Sky, Song: Promise and Peril in the World of Grassland Birds*. Trevor will show slides of the endangered landscapes and birds he focuses on in the book, providing insight into the forces driving the decline and offering suggestions of what we might do to help.

Book sales and signing to follow

**Fisherville CBC 2010**

Linda Thrower, Compiler

The 2010 Fisherville CBC was held January 2nd, 2011. Temperatures ranged from -0°C to -4°C and south winds ranged from 40-60 km by the lake (less inland). Every so often there was a light snowfall, mixed with heavy streamers. There was a light dusting of snow on the ground.

We had 31 observers in the field in 16 parties and 6 observers at feeders.

Start Time: 12 am; Finish Time: 7pm

Total hours owling 12.75    Total kms owling 179  
Total hours on foot 38.25    Total kms on foot 68.25  
Total hours by car- 58.5    Total kms by car- 1093  
Total party hours- 119.25    Tot. Individual hours- 223.5

Total Number of Species: 84

Total Number of Individuals: 30358

New Species to the Count

Sandhill Crane, American Pipit (prev.- count week),  
Ruddy Duck

Record Highs (previous high)

White-fronted Goose - 2 (2nd record; 2000-1)  
Canada Goose - 9899 (2009- 5735)

Equal Best

Chipping Sparrow - 2

Species Above Average

Tufted Titmouse - 26 (2009- 23; 2008- 21; 1990- 5)  
Carolina Wren - 9 (2nd highest 1991- 10; 2010- 9)  
Red-winged Blackbird - 14 (2009- 1)

Species Below Average

House Sparrow - 716 (2009- 1325)

Also Worthy of Mention

Turkey Vulture - 4 (first since 2006's 12)  
Redhead (highest since 1998)  
Greater Scaup (highest since 2000)  
Northern Saw-whet Owl (first since 2005)  
Winter Wren (first since 2007)  
White-throated Sparrow (lowest since 1993 - also 2)  
Snow Bunting (lowest since 2006)  
Rusty Blackbird (highest since 2003)

The warm outflow of the Ontario Power Generation Plant gave us Double-crested Comorant, Great Blue Heron, Peregrine Falcon, Iceland Gull, Glaucous Gull, Ruddy Duck, American Coot, and Hooded Merganser.

**Species List :**

Double-crested Comorant	1
Great Blue Heron	19
Turkey Vulture	4
Canada Goose	9899
Tundra Swan	63
Wood Duck	4
Gadwall	13

American Black Duck	314
Mallard	4680
Redhead	718
Greater Scaup	3337
Lesser Scaup	15
Bufflehead	275
Common Goldeneye	143
Hooded Merganser	1
Common Merganser	383
Red-breasted Merganser	471
Bald Eagle	11
Northern Harrier	59
Sharp-shinned Hawk	5
Cooper's Hawk	7
Red-tailed Hawk	170
Rough-legged Hawk	57
American Kestrel	25
Merlin	2
Peregrine Falcon	1
Wild Turkey	135
American Coot	2
Bonaparte's Gull	33
Ring-billed Gull	446
Herring Gull	292
Iceland Gull	2
Glaucous Gull	2
Greater Black-backed Gull	58
Rock Pigeon	333
Mourning Dove	303
Eastern Screech-Owl	35
Great Horned Owl	6
Long-eared Owl	2
Short-eared Owl	6
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	37
Downy Woodpecker	112
Hairy Woodpecker	20
Northern Shrike	1
Blue Jay	145
American Crow	624
Horned Lark	33
Black-capped Chickadee	396
Tufted Titmouse	26
Red-breasted Nuthatch	7
White-breasted Nuthatch	69
Brown Creeper	10
Carolina Wren	9
Winter Wren	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	31
Eastern Bluebird	31
American Robin	4
Northern Mockingbird	4
European Starling	3388
American Pipit	1
Cedar Waxwing	20

American Tree Sparrow	833
Chipping Sparrow	2
Song Sparrow	15
White-throated Sparrow	2
Slate-colored Junco	245
Snow Bunting	190
Northern Cardinal	111
Red-winged Blackbird	14
Eastern Meadowlark	2
Rusty Blackbird	21
Common Grackle	1
Yellow-shafted Flicker	7
Brown-headed Cowbird	373
Purple Finch	1
House Finch	282
Common Redpoll	3
American Goldfinch	207
House Sparrow	716
White-crowned Sparrow	3
Sandhill Crane	9
Ruddy Duck	16
White-fronted Goose	2

Those who braved the cold were: Mike Street, Bill Smith, Richard Skevington, Joe Stevenson, Steven Thrope, Adrian Jurrlink, Nancy Furbur, Matt Furbur, James Furbur, Rick Ludkin, Bill Read, Jim Smith, Roger Gifford, Besty Smith, Al Thrower, Linda Thrower, George Pond, Wilf Pond, Allan Aubin, Rick Dowson, Matt Timpf, Adam Timpf, Neil Taylor, Tom Thomas, Peter Booker, Chris Street, Hugh McAuther, Julia Weaver, Hanna Maciver, Rob Maciver, Deny Gardiner, Jim Heslop, Rob Smuck, Bob Stamp, Audrey Heagy, David Okines, Diane Salter.

Once again, "Thank You" to everyone for leaving that nice warm bed to do the Fisherville CBC. I really appreciate what each one of you puts into the day! A special "Thank You" to the Norfolk Naturalist's Club for their support of the Fisherville CBC. And also a "Thank You" to Ontario Power Generation Plant in Nanticoke for allowing birders into the plant.



**Outing (Pg 7)** Photo Credit: Shelia Smith

## Haldimand Birding Outing, January 2011

Audrey Heagy and David Okines

On the afternoon of January 16<sup>th</sup> 2011, a hearty group of fourteen NFNers headed out to do some mid-winter birding in Haldimand County. We met up in Simcoe first to carpool. Unfortunately there was a snafu in the trip information in the brochure and email reminder, resulting in confusion as to whether the trip started at 1:30 sharp or 2:00. Since it was cold and bird-less standing around the parking lot in Simcoe, a vanguard of six birders headed off at 1:35 to the first birding spot at the Port Dover Harbour. Meanwhile trip leaders, David Okines and Audrey Heagy, waited for the remaining expected participants to appear. The second group headed off to Port Dover about 1:50. Unfortunately, at least one additional person arrived for the 2 pm start time to find us all gone.

The two groups met up at the Port Dover harbour to find that the anticipated Bald Eagles had left the area shortly before first group arrived. Earlier in the day there had been a most cooperative young eagle raking the surface of the water at the end of the piers in search of fish, as well as a couple of adult Bald Eagles sitting on the ice not far offshore. The first group did see one eagle off in the distance, and two others appeared as we were leaving. The flock of Mallard and Black Ducks on the ice in the harbour was very cooperative. Several birds appeared to be fighting for possession of some small fish. As we watched the Common Goldeneye diving into the lake, someone spotted a Bonaparte's Gull as it flew past the lighthouse.

We headed north on Highway 6 and then east on Regional Road 3 towards Nanticoke. A brief stop by the field where we had seen over 200 Wild Turkeys last year yielded only a few distant Canada Geese. We guessed that the turkeys were staying sheltered in the woods that day due to the deep snow and cold wind (temperature hovering around -9°C and wind chill of -14°C). Farther east along the road, David spotted a Northern Shrike perched in a hedgerow. Some of the group got a look at it in the scope before it dropped down out of sight behind the shrubs. An American Kestrel farther along the road stayed perched up in a small tree for all to see.

A flock of American Tree Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos were feeding on the road margins on South Coast Road, leading down to the hot water outlet from the Nanticoke power plant but there was no sign of the Bald Eagles and Northern Mockingbird that had been sitting by the road in the morning. The outlet area was mostly frozen but we did see hundreds of

Common Mergansers, a few Mute Swans as well as Great Black-backed, Herring and Ring-billed gulls. A curious Black-capped Chickadee came close to check out what we were doing there.

Next stop was by Hoover's Marina in Nanticoke Harbour. A Lesser Scaup was sitting close in to shore, along with several Bufflehead and Goldeneye. The adult Glaucous Gull we had spotted offshore earlier in the day had moved on. After a brief stop at the Sunflower Restaurant in Selkirk for coffee and washrooms we headed off to the Fisherville Raptor Preserve. On the way we saw a few Red-tailed Hawks in roadside trees.

The Raptor Preserve is located on the south side of the Concession Six road, southeast of Balmoral (on Highway 3) and northwest of the hamlet of Fisherville. This tract of privately owned farmland, planted with grasses and spruce trees and on heavy clay soils, makes for ideal habitat for meadow voles, in turn attracting hungry raptors. Most years it is easy to see several Northern Harriers, Rough-legged Hawks, and Red-tailed Hawks hovering over the field in search of mice and voles. At dusk there is often a changing of the guard as the harriers go to roost in the field while the Short-eared Owls that have been hiding in the long grass all day come out to hunt.

This year with the grass buried under the snow cover, the owls often spend the day hidden in a pine or cedar tree or dense shrub. That afternoon we spotted a few Short-eared Owls in a small pine tree along a driveway leading into a farmhouse to the east of the Preserve. With binoculars on the tree, we realized that there were actually quite a few owls hiding in the tree. We were able to see at least 7 birds watching us. After at least ten minutes of "mutual" observation, all of the owls flushed out of the tree with birds heading off in all directions. David's final count was 15 owls! Several owls landed in bare deciduous trees and a few perched out in the open on a brush pile. We were lucky to see these birds during the day (it was about 4 pm) as most years we have had to wait until sunset for the owls to fly out from their daytime hiding spot.

After we had had our fill of watching the owls, we headed toward Cayuga in hopes of spotting a few more species. It was getting late in the day and the only species we added to the list was a flock of Snow Buntings perched on a barn roof. We wrapped up the afternoon's birding with a tally of 25 species, including 11 waterfowl, four gulls, four hawks and one owl species. Everyone went away happy with fond memories of the tree full of owls.

## Next Meetings

**Tuesday, March 8, 2011**

**The Guelph Pollination Initiative  
A Haven for Pollinators  
Vicki Beard, Pollination Canada**

**Tuesday, April 12, 2011**

**Adaptable Trickster:  
The Urban Coyote  
Lesley Sampson, Coyote Watch Canada**

### Upcoming NFN Events

**### 2011 ###**

**Sat. February 19 2:00pm**  
**Winter Tree Identification Hike**  
Backus Education Centre and one hour hike. Admission by donation. Nick DeSerranno 519-586-2201 or Dolf Wynia 519-875-3350

**Tues. February 22**  
**Movie Night**  
**Black Gold: Wake up and Smell the Coffee (2006)** (87 min)

**Tues. March 22**  
**Movie Night**  
**The Nature of Things: Visions of the Future**  
**2 Episodes:**  
**Earth Energy and Build Green**  
(Approx 90 minutes)

**!! NOTE DATE CHANGED  
FROM MARCH 26 !!**

**Sat. April 16 9:30am - 3:30pm**  
**Workshop**  
**Birding the Long Point Area**  
**Morning session and driving tour with Jody Allair.** Lunch included in \$25 cost. Pre-registration required. Form on website or: Shirley Rothery 519-586-9535

**!! NOTE DATE CHANGED  
FROM MAY 7 !!**

**Sat. May 14 8:30am - Noon**  
**Outing**  
**LPBO Old Cut Field Station**  
**Visit to banding station and tour of woodlot to seek migrant birds with Audrey Heagy**  
519-586-9464

### NFN Meetings

Norfolk Field Naturalist meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month from September to May. The election of Directors takes place at the September meeting.

Meetings take place at the Simcoe Seniors Centre on Pond Street. They are free and visitors are always welcome. Doors open at 7:15pm; program begins at 7:30pm.

### About the NFN

Norfolk Field Naturalist members participate in meetings and frequent field outings, many of which are family-friendly. Membership fees, due in September, are \$20-Individual and \$30-Family; donations are eligible for income tax credits; Charitable Registration #119058691.

Guest speakers present programs on interesting and relevant natural history and conservation topics.

Club members receive the Lotus newsletter with articles on local natural history and club activities. It is published bi-monthly from October to June by volunteer club members. Copies of the Lotus are available at meetings but will be mailed (free of charge) to members if not picked up. Articles published in the Lotus reflect the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the NFN. Visit the NFN website at:

[www.norfolkfieldnaturalists.org](http://www.norfolkfieldnaturalists.org)

**Next issue of Lotus:**

**April 2011**

**Input cutoff date:**

**Wed. Mar. 30, 2011**

### Club Mailing Address

**Norfolk Field Naturalists  
PO Box 995, Simcoe, ON  
N3Y 5B3**

### 2010 - 2011 NFN Directors with Contact and Project Information

<b>President</b>	Bernie Solymar	426-7124	<a href="mailto:solymar@nornet.on.ca">solymar@nornet.on.ca</a>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Tara Crewe	586-3531x163	<a href="mailto:crewe@bsc-eoc.org">crewe@bsc-eoc.org</a>
<b>Treasurer/Past President</b>	Audrey Heagy	586-9464	<a href="mailto:aheagy@bsc-eoc.org">aheagy@bsc-eoc.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Colleen Dale	428-0944	<a href="mailto:cdale22@yahoo.ca">cdale22@yahoo.ca</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Diane Salter	586-7775	<a href="mailto:bigcreek@kwic.com">bigcreek@kwic.com</a>
<b>Field Events</b>	(Acting) Audrey Heagy	586-9464	<a href="mailto:aheagy@bsc-eoc.org">aheagy@bsc-eoc.org</a>
<b>Speaker Program</b>	(Acting) Bernie Solymar	426-7124	<a href="mailto:solymar@nornet.on.ca">solymar@nornet.on.ca</a>
<b>Publicity</b>	Nina Cameron	586-8785	<a href="mailto:ninac@execulink.com">ninac@execulink.com</a>
<b>Sanctuary/Natural Areas</b>	Peter Carson	586-3985	<a href="mailto:gartcar@kwic.com">gartcar@kwic.com</a>
<b>Workshops</b>	Shirley Rothery	586-9535	<a href="mailto:shirleyrothery@hotmail.com">shirleyrothery@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Environment</b>	(position currently vacant)		
<b>Director-at-large</b>	Elisabeth van Stam	586-7719	<a href="mailto:evanstam@bsc-eoc.org">evanstam@bsc-eoc.org</a>
<b>Director-at-large</b>	Barb Hawke	586-8375	<a href="mailto:bhawke@kwic.com">bhawke@kwic.com</a>
<b>Director-at-large</b>	(position currently vacant)		
<b>Director-at-large</b>	(position currently vacant)		
<b>Honorary President:</b>	Al Robinson		
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