



Norfolk Field Naturalists

Annual Report 2010 - 2011

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 will celebrate its 50th year in 2012. For 2010-2011, the NFN had a total of 183 members in good standing (each family membership counts as 2 members) including six Supporting Members (dues + donation of at least \$100) and 23 Contributing Members (dues + donation of at least \$50).

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.

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 2010 - 2011 were (showing positions at the end of the year):

President	Bernie Solymar
Vice-President	Tara Crewe
Treasurer / Past President	Audrey Heagy
Secretary (+ Kids 4 Turtles)	Colleen Dale
Membership	Diane Salter
Field Events (Acting)	Audrey Heagy
Speaker Program (Acting)	Bernie Solymar
Publicity	Nina Cameron
Sanctuary / Natural Areas	Peter Carson
Workshops	Shirley Rothery
Director-at-large	Elisabeth van Stam
Director-at-large	Barb Hawke
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 2010 - 2011

It has been a very productive year for our Club in many ways. In addition to our regular speaker program and field outings we also offered 3 workshops – including using computer software for digital photography, a bird feeding workshop and an introductory birding workshop on Long Point. Thanks to Shirley Rothery for spearheading the organization of these workshops!

We also presented a series of environmental and nature movies for members during the winter months, and held a Christmas silent auction. The funds raised from that auction allowed us to purchase a series of educational DVDs that were donated to the Norfolk Public Library in recognition of our upcoming 50th anniversary in 2012. The 30 DVD collection, entitled "*The NFN's Nature and Environment Series*" is a significant contribution to our community in an effort to further our mission of furthering the study, appreciation and conservation of our natural world.

As in the last few years, we also had a presence at the Wildlife Festival at the Aud, the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve's NatureFest, and at Forest Fest, and had representatives on several committees including When Nature Calls, the Long Point Causeway Improvement committee and the NatureFest planning committee.

It is, of course, the volunteers within our organization that ensure our achievements and success each year. At a Carolinian East meeting of Ontario Nature there was much discussion about the issue of a greying membership in naturalist clubs across the province, and the need to recruit new volunteers on a regular basis to ensure we do not burn-out our present directors and other volunteers, and to ensure that we continue to deliver on our programs to benefit our members and our community. Consider this an appeal to offer your help, in whatever capacity, over the next year.

In closing, I'd like to extend a hearty thank you to the following people:

- Retiring board members **Nina Cameron** and **Elizabeth VanStam**
- **Marvin Grove** for organizing the Christmas silent auction
- **Mike McMillan and the many other NFN members** who participated in the Baillie Birdathon for the NFN.
- **Jane Thomson of Over the Moon** graphics in Port Rowan for producing our attractive brochure and banner.
- Our illustrious Lotus editor, **Anne Davidson**, who will be leaving us in June 2012 - she will be missed and difficult to replace!

Finally, for those that may not yet be aware - in 2012 our Club will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary!! We have already formed a "50th Anniversary Celebrations Committee" and have a number of events planned for next year that will recognize and celebrate our achievements over the last half century. These will include a BioBlitz at St. Williams Conservation Reserve, a Spirit Walk, initiating a Natural Heritage Inventory (25 years after the last one was conducted), and a Cocktail Social with special guests, music, wine and merriment!

Please join us in 2012 to make our 50th Anniversary a very special celebration of a Club that has accomplished so much!



Bernie Solymar
NFN President 2010 - 2011

Norfolk Field Naturalists

BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2011

2011

2010

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	49,670	15,207
Investments (GIC's)	28,833	55,385
Other Receivable (HST rebate)	282	937
TOTAL ASSETS	78,786	71,529

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities

Other Payable	0	0
Deferred Income (Badger 3k, Great Tree Hunt 7.5k, Bequest \$2k)	12,550	12,550
Total Liabilities	12,550	12,550

Equity

Accumulated Surplus at Beginning	58,979	49,353
Surplus (Deficit) this Period	7,257	9,625
Accumulated Surplus at End	66,236	58,979

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	78,786	71,529
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Norfolk Field Naturalists

INCOME STATEMENT YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2011

2011

2010

REVENUE

Membership Dues	2,900	3,175
Donations/ Fundraising/ Projects	10,294	16,486
Investment Income (Interest)	804	212
GROSS REVENUE	13,998	19,873

DISBURSEMENTS

Christmas Bird Count (2010 includes butterfly count \$100)	200	300
Donations	1,337	750
Hall Rental	260	160
Insurance	518	508
Memberships (incl Lotus) (2010 incl 1.4k for member meeting projector)	1,193	2,635
Events & Workshop	695	3,199
Office Expense (incl Postage and Web)	530	817
Program Speaker	895	750
Publications	979	972
Securement & Protection	-	-
Special Conservation Projects	-	-
HST Expense	133	156
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	6,741	10,248

NET INCOME - Surplus / (Deficit)	7,257	9,625
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Notes re Donations / Fundraising / Projects:

Birdathon Income total -	7,052	8,218
Membership Donations -	1,225	1,602
Other Donations -	100	-
St. Williams Burn Mgmt Strategy	-	2,000
SWCAF-Norfolk Business Dev.	-	3,796
The Great Tree Hunt	-	-
Workshops	1,385	870
Silent Auction	532	-
Total for Donations / Fundraising / Projects:	10,294	16,486

NFN INVESTMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2011

(A) Endowment Fund for Rowanwood Nature Reserve:	GIC: 13,758
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.	
(B) Securement and Protection Fund:	GIC: 15,075
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. Additional 25,894.96 in operating account for use (total 40,969.96)	
(C) Youth Program Fund:	Balance: 0
Separate investment for educational programs and materials for youth discontinued.	
Balance of 581.35 held in operating account	Total Investments: 28,833

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 particular 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 2010.

Harry Barrett	Lynne and Rodney Keegan	Stephanie and Ronald Sinden
Donna Boyle	Zeb Landon	Carol Snively-Skoblenick
Lynne and Michael Bradstreet	Ruth & Arthur Loughton	Richard and Barbara Szychta
Thomas and Denise Campbell	Lori and Robert Martin	Kristen Thompson
Betty Chanyi	Margaret McArthur	Emilie and Robert White
Donna Cowan	Alan McKeown	Sheila & Bill Whiteley
Mary Edmonds	Michael and Marilyn McMillan	Dolf and Ann Wynia
Felicity Fowke	Bill Read	Jane Zukovs
Paul Givens	Al and Pat Robinson	
Leonard & Janet Grincevicius	Alf Senior	

Charitable Registration # 119058691

Thank You NFN Birdathoners

The Birdathoners who designated NFN in May 2011 raised funds which NFN will receive in January 2012, at which time the exact amount being received by NFN will be known. For their enthusiasm and hard work, we thank:

Betty Chanyi	Mike McMillan	Anne Wynia
Peggy McArthur	George E. Pond	

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