



Up-coming dates:

Our lecture series will continue this fall and winter. As before, we will gather at 600 William Street in Cobourg at 7:00 p.m. for refreshments. Our speaker begins at 7:30.

November 8 - Val Deziel, regarding her thesis-- the identification of native plants on the Hazel Bird property, with special reference to plants identified by Catherine Parr Traill. Also plans to restore prairie habitat there.

January 10 - Barbara Heidenreich, who is Natural Heritage Coordinator for Ontario Heritage Trust. She will speak on cultural heritage landscapes, with special mention of the role of heritage trees.

February 21 - Janine McLeod, Natural Heritage coordinator for Alderville Black Oak Savanna, will speak about butterflies.

Looking ahead to next year, we have decided to keep the Wallace Birdathon in May and to move the annual dinner to the fall so that our two major fundraisers do not follow each other as closely as they did this year. For those who like to have their calendars organized well in advance, the dinner date is Wednesday, **October 16**.

RECENT STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITY

Leckey Property: the Stewardship Committee has had two work days to eliminate many of the Scots pines on Molly's property. We feel this effort has been well worthwhile, although until the "seed bank" in the soil is exhausted we will have to keep a close eye out for new seedlings. Fortunately, this species is one of the easier invasive exotics to control. While working on the pines we have discovered significant stands of garlic mustard and dog-strangling vine, and we will try to begin work on them next year. The trails on the property are in good shape, and the Pine Ridge Hiking Club has enjoyed another walk along them.



Bill Newell, Julie Munro & Tim Lawley

McEwen Property: the major attack against the dog-strangling vine seems to have paid dividends. This will be an ongoing project, but two large, dense stands have been much reduced, allowing us to concentrate on the remaining smaller patches and outlying individuals. Bill Newell did a fabulous job in this control effort, and the surrounding vegetation has not suffered a great deal. In the long run it will benefit immensely. We have also placed stakes along parts of a proposed trail through the property, and their red-painted tops will guide walkers to the north clearing and to the top of the hill west of the gate, both of which have superb views of the surrounding area. The Pine Ridge Hiking Club has also enjoyed this property, accessing it along the road allowance from the Ganaraska Forest Centre.

Laurie Lawson Outdoor Education Centre: Mark continues to transplant many native flowers, shrubs and ferns into suitable locations; he is acquiring them from a woodlot that is being cut down for agricultural purposes. He also continues with trail maintenance work and with improvements to the accessibility of the facility.

Pelton Property: On the misty, damp morning of Sat. Oct. 27, Russ Lake and Petra Hartwig made the scheduled trek to the Pelton property. The focus of the visit was the 6 hectare field where 400 trees were planted in April. The field is now well covered with vegetation - goldenrod, aster, mullen, and other grasses. The prairie species broadcast last October were not evident, however they may not show up for a couple of years. Walking through the field, they broadcast more mixed prairie seeds.

They found many of the pine and spruce planted in April, with some pine looking very robust. However, Russ feels that only 40% to 50% survived the very dry spring and summer. The best plants were about 30 cm tall. At the northeast corner of the property there is a good stand of deciduous trees, including a huge oak about 1.5 m in diameter. They saw a good variety of birds: 100 wild turkeys, 2 grouse, many robins, chickadees, juncos, cardinals, a variety of sparrows, and a hermit thrush.

WALLACE BIRDATHON 2012

We are delighted to let all our supporters know that last May's Wallace Birdathon was our best ever, despite Roger's relatively low species total. The total amount raised came to \$1942.50, comfortably surpassing our goal of \$1500. Organizers are already eyeing \$2000 as a target for next year! Many thanks to Norma Wallace for her ongoing support, to Roger Frost for his intense effort on Birdathon day, and to all our loyal donors who helped us provide valuable funds for stewardship of our four properties.

Your Board

President Joan Chalovich Past President..... Jim McGrath
First Vice-presidentJohn Geale Secretary Eva Nichols
Directors:Mary Bedford-Jones, David Fischer, Janette Johnston,
Bill Newell, Suzanne Sticklely

We would like to thank Daphne King for taking on the position of Bookkeeper.

The Board would like to thank the volunteers who have helped out with various projects during 2012, particularly tree-planting and trail maintenance. As Joan is currently acting as Treasurer and President, we would welcome someone who would be willing to help out as Treasurer, and we would also like to have a Second Vice-President on the Board to help spread the work around a bit. Please give us a call if you would like to help out.

Any Board member may be contacted by leaving a phone message at 905-342-3851 or by e-mailing us at operations@northumberlandlandtrust.ca

INTRODUCING OUR LATEST BOARD MEMBERS

David Fischer is a retired lawyer, formerly a partner in the London firm of Lerner LLP. He is a specialist in estate planning and administration, tax planning, charities, law and real estate. David and his wife Barbara Craig moved from London to Cobourg last November. His children are Rebecca, Natalie and Amberley (who lives in Cobourg); he has six grandchildren.



For 13 years David was co-author of a weekly *London Free Press* column on estate and tax planning. He has also been a frequent speaker and advisor on these subjects to charities and community groups. David was recently nominated by the Canadian Association of Gift Planners as Volunteer of the Year for 2012.

David has served on the boards of the St. Joseph's Health Care Foundation of London, Theatre London Foundation, the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada, Jesse's Journey, and the Canadian Diabetes Foundation; he still serves on the Compassion Canada board. David enjoys reading, travelling, volunteering and coin collecting. For many years, he was an avid runner but he now concentrates on walking. In Cobourg he has joined the Rotary Club, and we are very pleased to welcome him as a Land Trust Board member.

Your Board continued...

Suzanne Stickley has lived in Port Hope for 41 years and has been an active community volunteer for all those years. Currently, Sue is a director of the Friends of Wesleyville Village, Vice-Chair of the Municipality of Port Hope Tree Advisory Committee, and a member of the Port Hope Heritage Incentives Advisory Committee.



She retired in 2011 from the position of Communications Officer with the Port Hope Area Initiative team of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited. Sue holds a BA from the University of Western Ontario and a variety of certificates and diplomas on communications, nuclear energy and the environment. She has been a secondary school teacher (with CUSO in Malaysia), a journalist, a corporate community relations officer, a college communications teacher and principal in a consulting firm. We are delighted that she has now become a director of the Northumberland Land Trust.

President's Report

The Northumberland Land Trust Board meets on the third Monday of the month in the dining room lounge of Victoria Retirement Home, 100 University Avenue, Cobourg. The Retirement Home always puts on the coffee pot for us and the 7 p.m. meetings are open to the public, but if you wish to attend a meeting, please confirm the date and time by calling 905-342-3851.

No further property acquisitions are being reviewed at this time. However, our Stewardship Committee members remain busy with the current sites, cutting Scotch pine growth, controlling dog-strangling vine, transplanting native plants, and clearing trails. Helpers are always welcomed so if you are able to assist please leave your name with John Geale or myself and we will contact you when work parties are going out.

The Ontario Land Trust Alliance group meets this month for its fall conference in Orillia and we have delegates attending, so we will have a report for members on items of interest. A project of our Board for the ensuing year is to review existing policies and update our policies to conform to Federal standards for Land Trusts to comply with new Regulations set for 2014. We look forward to meeting you at the first lecture of our series, on November 8. We are grateful to the County of Northumberland for allowing our Board to use their well-equipped conference room at 600 William Street for our Lecture series. A warm welcome awaits you.

Joan Chalovich, President.