

# THE PRESERVER, FEBRUARY 2012



As we gear up for the busy spring, summer and fall seasons we are excited to open with our annual dinner on April 4 - put the date on your calendar now! Details are below. Stewardship activity gets into full swing, and fund-raising, publicity and educational programs carry on. Memberships for 2012 are now due - please see page 2. We hope you will continue to support us as we do our part to "preserve Northumberland one acre at a time." Thanks to those who have already renewed.

## **SPRING INTO SPRING WITH YOUR LAND TRUST**



Please join us on Wednesday, April 4 for an evening of music, information and fun. The occasion is our annual dinner and silent auction, to be held this year at The Woodlawn Inn, 420 Division Street, Cobourg.

We begin with a reception, silent auction, and musical entertainment at 5:30 p.m., with dinner to follow at 6:30. Trees Ontario's Glenn McLeod will be our guest speaker; he will tell us everything we want to know about planting trees, their benefits, and some surprises about how they grow. To reserve your place:

- Tickets may be obtained by calling 905-342-3851 or 905-372-6258, by e-mail at [operations@northumberlandlandtrust.ca](mailto:operations@northumberlandlandtrust.ca), or by contacting any Board member.
- Tickets cost \$60, and you will receive a tax receipt for \$25; dinner, taxes, and gratuity are included, but drinks before dinner or wine with dinner are not.

We would like to thank Woodlawn Inn for their sponsorship of this event.

Good luck, Mia!

We are sad to lose Mia Frankl to the west coast, although she is excited about her new job as it leads her along her career path. Mia was our Vice-president, co-chair of the Stewardship Committee, point person for our McEwen property, editor of *The Preserver*, and general expert on all things ecological and locally political. We will need about eight volunteers to fill her shoes, but we wish her all the best in her position as Bylaw Officer for the city of Victoria.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM - 2012 MEMBERSHIPS NOW DUE**

We hope we can count on your support in 2012. Members receive:

- A tax receipt (Charitable Registration #89257-5930 RR0001)
- The right to vote at the Annual General Meeting
- Newsletters, invitations to events such as our dinner, hikes, and lectures
  - And if you have the time and/or expertise, we would love to have you join us as a volunteer!

Please make cheques payable to "Northumberland Land Trust", and mail the form below to:

Northumberland Land Trust, P. O. Box 1153, Cobourg, ON, K9A 5A4

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Dr.       Mr.       Mrs.       Ms.

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Number and Street*

*City/town*

*Postal code*

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Single:  \$25      Family:  \$40      Supporting:  \$50      Corporate:  \$100

Donation:  \$250       \$500       Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Upcoming Events

- Thursday, March 8 - Our lecture series for this season will end with a much-anticipated presentation by Elizabeth Kellogg: "The Birds of Northumberland". Join us at 600 William Street in Cobourg at 7:00 p.m. for refreshments before Elizabeth begins at 7:30.
- Wednesday, April 4 - Our annual fund-raising dinner and silent auction takes place at The Woodlawn Terrace; the auction begins at 5:30 p.m., with dinner at 6:30. See the note on page 1 for more details.
- The Wallace Birdathon will return in May. Stay tuned for details.
- We will again be offering hikes and volunteer opportunities at our properties. Keep an eye on our website and your e-mails.

### Third lecture report:

Our speaker for the third lecture of the season, February 9, was Janine McLeod, the Natural History Coordinator at Alderville First Nation Black Oak Savanna. Janine had wonderful photos of this preserve at Alderville, showing the prairie and savanna landscape, native plants, and the birds and insects there, many of which are rare and unique to this environment. She talked about methods of maintenance for the prairie habitat, including controlled burns, and planting of seeds and plant plugs; also about efforts to create favourable conditions for the reintroduction of extirpated species which once were here. Finally, she talked about the medicinal uses of many of the native plants.

More information is available at [www.aldervillesavanna.ca](http://www.aldervillesavanna.ca), and you can arrange a tour for your own group by contacting [savannatours@eagle.ca](mailto:savannatours@eagle.ca). Many thanks, Janine!

## Stewardship Plans 2012



Plans for our McEwen Property this year include dog-strangling vine control, the establishment of a hiking trail, and the installation of bluebird nest boxes. The trail will cross the field, visit the pond, climb the hill to the clearing, return through the woods to the top of the southern hill, and descend to the starting point at the entrance gate. Volunteers will be needed!

At the Laurie Lawson Outdoor Education Centre, Mark always has projects on the go. The new pond study boardwalk is ready for spring, control of invasives is well underway, many native woodland flowers have been planted, and woody shrubs have been discouraged from invading the field. Drop in and have a look!



At Molly Leckey's property, where we hold a conservation easement, a lot of work was done last year to maintain the trails in good condition, and we were proud to welcome the Pine Ridge Hiking Club for one of their outings. This work will be touched up, and we hope some control of exotic invasives will begin.

The Pelton Property, which is adjacent to Peter's Woods, is set to have a serious makeover of its northwest corner with the planting of 400 white pine and white spruce seedlings. The former agricultural field will receive additional plantings in future years, and we will try to keep an ongoing photographic record as it is transformed back into the forest we would like to see.

