

Northumberland Land Trust

Ontario, Canada

Preserving Northumberland County - one acre at a time

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

October 16 (Wednesday) - our annual dinner and silent auction. This is the second of our major fundraisers for the year and it is very important in providing funds for our



stewardship activities on our properties. This year's dinner will be at Dalewood Golf Club (7465 Dale Road, just west of Theatre Road) beginning at 5:30 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Mike McIntosh from Bear With Us (see <http://bearwithus.org/>); you may be surprised to know that there are certainly black bears

on at least three of our properties, and we think everyone should know how to react if you happen to encounter one. Tickets may be obtained by contacting John Geale at 905-342-3851 or johngeale@yahoo.com, or by contacting any Board member.

November 12 (Tuesday) - our first lecture of the season. Our plans are now being finalized, but we hope this month's speaker will address the topic of the system of trails in Northumberland. We are fortunate to live near and amongst some fabulous natural environments, and many trails make them easily accessible. Refreshments will be available at 7:00 p.m., and our speaker will begin at 7:30 p.m. The location is our usual 600 William Street, Cobourg (thank you, Northumberland County!). Free admission.

Stewardship Activity:

- To participate in any stewardship activity, please contact John Geale at 905-342-3851 or johngeale@yahoo.com.

Leckey property - Scots pine removal - one morning in September, and one in October; dates to be decided.

McEwen property - Scots pine removal, tentatively September 28.

Hikes with the Pine Ridge Hiking Club:

September 28 (Saturday) - Leckey property

October 27 (Sunday) - McEwen property

- If you would like to join either of these hikes, please contact us (905-342-3851 or johngeale@yahoo.com) to confirm times and meeting locations.

MANY THANKS! First, thanks to all our supporters who sponsored our celebrity birder, **Roger Frost**, in this year's **Wallace Birdathon**. You helped raise a record \$2100, which will go a long way towards the expenses of our stewardship activities on our four properties. It is very encouraging to know that we can count on such strong support from our members, and even from some folks who are not NLT members but who recognize the value of preserving special spots in the County.

Second, thanks to Roger, who recorded a fabulous 151 species on this year's Wallace



Birdathon. He decided to start his 2013 Birdathon at noon on May 25, in the area of Candlewick Woods and Willow Beach Road. Species here included Wilson's Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Great Horned Owl, Clay-colored



Sparrow and Orchard Oriole. Next, Port Hope harbour was productive: Whimbrel, gull species were seen. Then

Dunlin, Semipalmated Sandpiper and six it was on to Presqu'ile, where the highlights were Common Gallinule, Gadwall, Bufflehead, Yellow-billed Cuckoo and American Bittern.

Two American Kestrels were spotted on the way to Lone Pine Marsh and at the marsh were Wood Duck and Virginia Rail. As daylight faded, he headed poor-will spot on Dunbar Road, where he was treated to 3 wills and a Woodcock, but no Common Nighthawk. At the wetland, the high water level produced calling Least Bittern



for his Whip-Whip-poor-Cold Creek and Sora!

It was now Trumpeter succeeded. And on Grist Mill



about 10:30 p.m., but he decided to look for the nesting Swan at Campbell Road by the light of the moon - and he one more try for an Eastern Screech-Owl was also successful Road. The list now held 119 species.

Early the next morning the best birds were a Black Tern at Webb View Marsh, a Canada Warbler at Bull Road, and Northern Parula, and Cooper's Hawk at Peter's Woods. A at the Macklin Road marsh and Pine Siskin and nearby rounded out the list for the North-final check of the Port Hope harbor produced the final species: a Ruddy Turnstone.



Red-shouldered Hawk Blackpoll Warbler singing Hooded Merganser umberland Forest area. A

This is just a brief summary. If you would like a paper copy of the full report, including the complete bird list, please let us know at operations@northumberlandlandtrust.ca, or call 905-342-3851. Roger's full report can also be seen at <http://www.northumberlandlandtrust.ca/index.htm>. We are very grateful to Roger for the time and effort he has once again put into this fund-raiser which is so important to us.

President's message

We trust you are enjoying these summer days. We are fortunate that in the midst of the hot days we have had some refreshing rains in this area that have kept our countryside green and encouraged growth. Many of the trees planted at our Pelton property near Peter's Woods have taken root and in time will form the basis for a new forested area. Local hiking groups often make use of the Northumberland Land Trust properties for their outings, and this will eventually be a new forest for them to enjoy. Contact for permission to visit any of our properties is via John Geale, 905 342-3851, or through any member of the Stewardship Committee.

We have recently received a much appreciated gift of approximately \$4,000 from one of our members. The funds will be added to our stewardship account for the time being until the Board requires them for another acquisition or for a project to improve one of our existing sites. We are very grateful to the donor who will, of course, receive a charitable receipt for the value of the stock donated. The donor also avoids having to pay tax on the accrued appreciation on the stock held in their portfolio, so indirectly receives a double benefit for the donation.

We are pleased that George Gordon of Hastings has returned to the Board of Directors after a sabbatical while he pursued other interests. George is just completing a term on the Board of Directors for Northumberland United Way and his mother Marie Gordon resides at Legion Village, Cobourg and is very involved with the Cobourg Ecology Garden. At the same time we are sorry to lose the assistance of Sue Stickley, who has contributed a great deal to the work of our Board. She has been a huge help with our newsletter, organization of special events, and the publicizing of our activities.

There is room on the Board of Directors for another individual who shares a common interest in the preservation of lands, flora and fauna, and the stewardship committee frequently needs assistance with work at the various sites. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to help us with these responsibilities.

Regular monthly meetings will resume again on Monday, September 16th, 7:00 p.m. at the Victoria Retirement Residence, 100 University Avenue East in Cobourg. Once again I express the appreciation of the Board members for your support by way of memberships, donations and attendance at our various functions.

Joan Chalovich, President

YOUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Many of you will not be familiar with all the members of the Stewardship Committee. But these are the folks who regularly get their hands dirty and their bodies sweaty at our four properties, trying to keep invasive exotic species under control, creating and maintaining trails, planting trees, and keeping in touch with landowners; over the next few issues of *The Preserver* we would like to introduce them to you, starting now with Russ Lake, whose special responsibility is the Pelton property; Russ is pictured to the right helping to plant trees on this property.



Russ says he has been connected to the land since his childhood, when hunting, fishing and gathering were part of surviving. Back in the 1980s he volunteered to help with the stewardship of Willow Beach Field Naturalists (WBFN) property, and he served as Chair of WBFN's Property Committee. He was involved with the original formation of the Northumberland Land Trust, and has been a member of the Stewardship Committee for about six years.

He enjoys being on our properties, taking in their sights, sounds and smells, and takes satisfaction in knowing that they will be protected forever to be enjoyed by future generations. His particular goal as a member of the Stewardship Committee is to ensure that all our properties are maintained in as natural a state as possible so that others who take pleasure in natural areas can do so and will continue to support NLT.

We thank Russ for all he does for the Committee (including hosting our meetings and providing refreshments) and especially for the care he gives to the Pelton Property.

YOUR BOARD

At June's AGM, the following Board members were elected or confirmed:

President	Joan Chalovich	Past President.....	Jim McGrath
First Vice-president	John Geale	Secretary	Eva Nichols
Directors:	Mary Bedford-Jones, David Fischer, George Gordon, Janette Johnston, Bill Newell		

New Board members and occasional volunteers would be welcome, especially someone who would be willing to help out as Treasurer. 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 calling 905-342-3851 (leave a message if necessary) or by e-mailing us at operations@northumberlandlandtrust.ca
