

FIELD EVENTS 2007-2008

Saturday, September 15, 2007

Fall Migrants at Woodland Cemetery/Carroll's Point

Enjoy half day hike in one of Hamilton's hotspots, Woodland Cemetery located on Spring Gardens Road behind the Royal Botanical Gardens Centre. Leader Frank Morley is eager to seek out fall migrants. Walking may entail a hike down to Carroll's Point (a bit of an incline). Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the main entrance to Woodland Cemetery on Spring Gardens Road in Burlington. Contact Frank Morley at (905) 575-0668

Sunday, September 16, 2007

Late Summer Butterflies

Although diversity is lower at this time of year there can still be several species on the wing. Meet in front of the Rockton General Store at 1:00 p.m. In the event of poor butterfly weather we will look at other things. Contact Bill Lamond at (519) 756-9546

Saturday September 29, 2007

Cartwright Nature Sanctuary Mortgage Burning and Trail Dedication

Nigel Charlton Community Centre, Old Guelph Rd, Dundas, 1:00 p.m. Join us as we celebrate the symbolic burning of the mortgage on the Cartwright Nature Sanctuary! There will also be a trail naming in honour of Bruce Duncan. Bus to the trail head for hikes of the Cartwright Nature Sanctuary, refreshments, presentation. Check Wood Duck for details. Contact Alan Ernest, 905 689-9466, a.e@cogeco.ca

Saturday, October 20, 2007

Spooky Hollow Work Day

Meet at the Egg and I restaurant at Hwy 53 and Hwy 2 at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast. Then it's off to our sanctuary jewel, Spooky Hollow, for trail maintenance. As always, it is not all work as we can enjoy the beauty of Spooky and the Fall colours should still be outstanding. Please bring a lunch. Call Warren Beacham at (905) 627-3343

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Parks Canada Discovery Centre

Meet at 7:15 p.m. at Parks Canada Discovery Centre at 57 Guise Street East, Hamilton, for an after hours private group visit at the Discovery Center including a guided tour and short film in the theater. The centre features 3 galleries each exploring a different theme. Displays and interactive exhibits feature Canada's heritage through our system of national protected and important areas, the culture and interactions with our varied marine areas, and a simulated Voyage of Discovery including a scientists' cabin. For more information visit their website at : http://www.pc.gc.ca/canada/decouvertes-discovery/index_E.asp Pre-registration required since numbers are limited - sign-up at September or October HNC meetings or email Sheldon McGregor at smcgrego@scj.com or phone at (905) 304-8282. Admission fee of \$5.45 for adults, and \$2.95 for children 16 and under is payable at door.

Saturday, October 27, 2007

Trees of Hamilton Cemetery

How well do you know your local trees with or without leaves? Meet at Dundurn Castle at 9:00 a.m. for this informative morning hike concentrating on the many aspects of identification of trees of the area. Leader: Frank Morley (905) 575-0668

Saturday, November 3, 2007

In Search of Late Wildflowers

Meet expert botanists Dean Gugler and Fleur-Ange Lamothe at Princess Point, RBG at 1:30 p.m. for a walk on the Hamilton Waterfront Trail. Although this hike will focus on late season wildflowers, make sure you bring your binoculars, as the Waterfront Trail will be good for waterbirds at this date. Contact Dean Gugler and Fleur-Ange Lamothe at (519) 647-2371

Sunday, November 4, 2007

Hamilton Fall Bird Count

This will be the 34th annual HFBC which is always held on the first Sunday of November. An event that Alan Wormington initiated in 1974, is now a favoured tradition for many Hamilton birders. To participate or confirm your area please call Bill Lamond at (519) 756-9546

Saturday, November 17, 2007

Van Wagners to Fifty Point Birding

Join Kevin for his annual hike concentrating on waterbirds. Meet at Van Wagners Beach at the north side of Hutch's parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Several stops are in order at Gray's Rd, Sayers Park, Millen Rd, Fifty Point, etc. The duration will be at least the morning and possibly early afternoon if things are good. Contact Kevin McLaughlin at (905) 549-7057.

Saturday November 17, 2007, 7:00 p.m..

TRIVIA NIGHT! Head of the Lake Land Trust Fund Raiser

Test your knowledge and help raise money for the Land Trust program. Join us for an evening of skill and fun. This is a team event, with max 8 people per team competing for fun and prizes. Check Wood Duck for details. Contact Warren Beacham (905) 627-3343 or wbeach808@sympatico.ca

Saturday, December 1, 2007

Early Winter Birding Hike

Start your "winter listing" with Sheldon at 8:00 a.m. at the upper parking lot of LaSalle Park at the southern end of Waterdown Rd in Aldershot. We will visit several miscellaneous birding hotspots in the local area. This hike will probably go to 2-3:00 p.m. depending on crowd, weather and how things are going. Please bring warm clothes and a lunch. Contact Sheldon McGregor at (905) 304-8282

Wednesday, December 26, 2007

Hamilton Christmas Bird Count

This annual tradition has always occurred on Boxing Day in the Hamilton area. A part of the continent-wide program to monitor bird populations. Please contact Tom Thomas at (905) 689-5920 to confirm your area or to join in the fun.

Saturday, January 5, 2008

Winter Wildlife at Fletcher Creek Ecological Preserve

Geothermal heat brings on spring any day. Surprises are definitely on hand. Take Gore Road west from Hwy 6 a distance of 4.8 km. Turn right on 7th Concession and follow for 0.7 km to the pull off at Crieff Bog – the source of Spencer Creek. Hike begins at 1:00 p.m. Call Bruce Mackenzie to reserve a spot for the hike at (905) 643-4526

Saturday, January 12, 2008

Winter Birding in Hamilton

Join Bill Lamond for a winter birding outing. Meet behind the Olympic Arena along Olympic Dr. in Dundas at 8:00 a.m. Hike will end around 12:30 p.m. Call Bill Lamond at (519) 756-9546

Saturday, January 19, 2008

Winter Wandering at the Dundas Valley

Meet Dean & Fleur-Ange at Sanctuary Park at 1:30 p.m. Meet at the parking lot on Sanctuary Drive off Pleasant Ave in Dundas. A surprising number of wildflowers can be identified at this time of year. We will also examine any bit of nature the strikes our fancy. Call Dean Gugler and Fleur-Ange Lamothe at (519) 647-2371

Sunday, February 10, 2008

Hawks and Owls of Saltfleet

Join leaders Ken and Angie Williams at this traditional spot in Hamilton on 10th Road East to view wintering hawks and owls. Hike begins at 5:30 p.m. at the tracks on 10th Road East at the Dofasco Trail. This is an ideal spot to view wintering Shorteared Owls. Contact Ken & Angie Williams at (905) 547-8580

March 1 to May 15, 2008

Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch

This annual hawkwatch has been going strong for over 30 years! The hawkwatch takes place at Beamer C.A. just above Grimsby on the Escarpment. It is the best place in Ontario to see migrating raptors in the spring. There is always someone knowledgeable present to help with identification. Contact Mike Street at (905) 648-3737

Saturday, March 29, 2008

Early Spring Birding

Join Rob Dobos for a birding outing looking for early spring arrivals and lingering wintering birds around the Harbour, Lakeshore and Saltfleet areas. Waterfowl, loons, grebes, raptors, sparrows and a few others should be in store. Bring a spotting scope and a lunch. Meet at LaSalle Marina pier at the foot of Waterdown Rd. in Aldershot at 8:00 a.m. for car pooling. For more info contact Rob at (905) 628-0297 or rdobos@cogeco.ca

Saturday, April 26, 2008

Walk Through Spencer Gorge

Join leader Frank Morley for this all inclusive spring hike through one of our unique areas of Hamilton. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the west end of Park Street in Dundas where it meets with Bond. Uneven escarpment terrain is involved. Hike runs until noon. Contact Frank Morley at (905) 575-0668

Saturday, May 3, 2008

Early Spring Wildflowers of Cootes Paradise

This is an exciting time of year especially with the flowering of the ephemeral spring wildflowers. Join botanists Dean Gugler and Fleur-Ange Lamothe for a walk on the north shore of Cootes Paradise. Meet at the traffic parking circle at 1:30 p.m. at the RBG Arboretum on Old Guelph Rd. Call Dean and Fleur-Ange at (519) 647-2371

May 2008

Point Pelee Camping

Point Pelee National Park allocates campground sites in January. We usually get a reservation. See the Wood Duck, HNC web site or call Frank Morley at (905)575-0668

Sunday, May 4, 2008

Short Hills Work Day

Meet at Battlefield Square Plaza on Hwy 8 at 9:00 am. This is our annual "spring clean-up" of our Sanctuary. We are always looking for new volunteers to help with sanctuary maintenance. You will be rewarded with the old-growth trees and the beautiful spring wildflowers of Short Hills. Bring a lunch. Please contact Warren Beacham at (905) 627-3343

Saturday, May 11, 2008

Fletcher Creek Ecological Reserve and Crieff Bog

We will visit the remediated quarry and explore the surrounding area for birds, spring wildflowers, amphibians, etc. Meet at the Fletcher Creek parking area just north of Gore Road on Concession 7 Puslinch Township at 9:00 a.m. Bring a lunch. Call Brian Wylie at (905) 627-4601

Saturday, June 1, 2008

Beverly Swamp

The Beverly Swamp sits just within the northern boundary

of the "Carolinian" zone but has much flora & fauna more closely associated with the boreal forests of the north. Starflower, Labrador Tea, White-throated Sparrow, and Canada Warblers to name a few. The outing will be a half day introduction to this gem of a natural area. Meet at the corner of Westover Rd & 8th Concession Rd West at 9:00 a.m. Bring rubber boots & bug dope. For further info call Paul Smith at 905-659-1482

Saturday, June 8, 2008

Dundas Valley Birding

Dundas Valley is a vast expanse of natural habitat that supports some of our southern breeding birds such as Hooded Warbler and Acadian Flycatcher. Join Jim Heslop and Bob Stamp for a hike through part of the valley. Meet at the dead end of Powerline Rd east of Hwy 52 and Paddy Green Rd, at 8:00 a.m. Hike will end around noon. For more information contact Jim Heslop at (905) 648-5770

Saturday, June 15, 2008

Dragonflies and Damselflies

Join leader Bob Curry for this hike exploring the many species of odonates we have in the Hamilton Study Area. Meet at RBG headquarters parking lot on Plains Rd. W. at 9:00 a.m. Bring a lunch, cameras and a net if you have one. Wear comfortable shoes that you won't mind getting wet if the occasion arises. Call Bob Curry for more info at (905) 637-2022

Saturday, June 28, 2008

Dundas Valley Moths

The Dundas Valley is one of the best places to observe moths in the Hamilton area. Meet at the west end of Lions Club Rd. at 9:00 p.m. Bring a flashlight. We will observe moths attracted to mercury vapour lamps and blacklights. Call Bill Lamond at (519) 756-9546

Sunday, July 6, 2008

Hamilton Butterfly Count

Meet at the church in Kirkwall right at the main intersection on Kirkwall Rd. & 8th Concession at 9:00 a.m. This count is not for beginners but for those who can identify most of our butterflies. Call Bill Lamond for details at (519) 756-9546

For updates and additions concerning Field Events and other info about the Club, check *the Wood Duck*, listen to the Bird Hotline at 381-0329, or check out our website at www.hamiltonnature.org

MONTHLY MEETINGS

September 10, 2007

"Recycling Owls"

Kay McKeever, The Owl Foundation

October 8, 2007 (Thanksgiving Monday)

AGM and Presentation of the Volunteer of the Year Awards

November 19, 2007

"Peregrine Falcons in Ontario: A Success Story" and Falcon Watch Volunteer Appreciation Night

Brian Ratcliff

December 10, 2007

"Millions of Monarchs" Tour to Mexico

Adrienne Brewster

*Curator, Wings of Paradise Butterfly Conservatory
Cambridge ON*

January 7, 2008

The Adventures of Making a Field Guide

*Fiona A. Reid, Tour Guide, Author and Illustrator
of the Peterson Field Guide to Mammals of
North America*

February 11, 2008

Your Garden Matters: Understanding the role of planted occurrences of native plants in conserving Carolinian floral diversity

*David Morris, PhD Candidate, Dept. of Geography,
University of Waterloo.*

March 10, 2008

Presentation by the author of "Silence of the Songbirds"

*Bridget J. M. Stutchbury, Department of Biology,
York University*

April 7, 2008

Water Quality and Source Water Protection

Dr. Bahar SM, P. Eng., Conservation Halton,

May 12, 2008

Natural Treasures of Carolinian Canada

Lorraine Johnson, Author

Hamilton Naturalists' Club Dates to Remember 2007 - 2008

