



The Swallow



Volume 20, # 2
Spring 2003

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Secretary: Manson Fleguel	735-7703	Benita Richardson	Gwen Purdon



Scarlet Tanager at Point Pelee NP. photo chris michener

Membership in the Pembroke Area Field Naturalists is available by writing to: the PAFN, Box 1242, Pembroke, ON K8A 6Y6. 2003/2004 dues are: Senior \$5, Student \$5, Individual \$7, Family \$10, Individual Life \$150, Family Life \$200.

Editor, The Swallow: Chris Michener, R.R.1, Golden Lake, ON K0J 1X0 - Submissions welcome!
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PAFN internet page: <http://www.renc.igs.net/~cmichener/pafn.index.html>

Owling Night

When: 8PM, Friday, April 4th - (or if rainy or windy -Saturday April 5th)

Where: Hwy 41 & Lake Dore Rd. parking lot.

Chris will design a route which should produce Great-horned Owl, Barred Owl and Saw-whet Owl. A possibility is Eastern Screech-Owl. A remote possibility is Long-eared Owl (the only owl we heard last year!) Each participant should bring a cookie for the trip leader.

PAFN Annual Meeting.

Wed., April 16, 2003, 7:00PM, Room 201, Algonquin College, Pembroke.

The Club's business meeting will last until 7:30 or so, followed by refreshments, then a presentation about the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas by Nicole Kopysh. Nicole is Assistant Coordinator for the Ontario Bird Atlas, with headquarters at the University of Guelph.

This will be a very informative evening for anyone interested in the birds of Ontario. The Atlas is in the 3rd year of a five year program and many Club members are participating. Atlas information and materials will be available. Our local coordinator, Chris Michener, will be present to answer questions about areas in Renfrew County that need atlassing.

A Trip to Bellow's Bay:

Date: Saturday, April 26, 2003.

Time: at 9AM.

Trip Leader: Manson Fleguel, 732-7703.

Meet at the marina in Pembroke, at the mouth of the Muskrat River. We can car pool. Bring rubber boots as cowpies and mud will be encountered. Some past sightings have been Snow Goose, Gadwall, Redhead, Fox Sparrow and Rusty Blackbird.

Spring Wildflower Hunt

Date: May 4

Time: at 2 PM

Meet at the parking area at Hwy 41 and the Lake Dore Rd. (Cty Rd 30).

Stroll under the lofty canopy of beautiful Shaw Woods and learn to identify early spring wildflowers. This is a walk for all ages. We should see Trout Lilies, Blue Cohosh, Trilliums and several other species. Some trees will also be identified and Warblers will be heard and possibly seen high in the canopy. The walk will be easy to moderate on well maintained trails. The pace and duration of the walk will be determined by the participants.

Trip Organizer: Grant Bickel (phone: 613-687-4765. e-mail: bickelg@magma.ca)



Trout Lily on April 27, 2001, in
Renfrew County.
photo chris michener

PAFN Events cont'd ...

A Walk in the Pembroke Crown Game Preserve (Fish Hatchery)

Date: Sunday May 18, 2003.

Time: 5 PM. Trip Leader: Myron Loback 732-1278.

Meet in the lower parking lot of the Preserve, off Laurentian Drive. (go west of Pembroke on Pembroke St. towards Petawawa, turn north on Laurentian Dr., watch for sign and drive through the open steel gates). Some migrant songbirds as well as waterfowl can be expected. Good outing for children as Canada Geese will likely be present and, quite possibly, no biting insects! Species may include Sora, Virginia Rail, Yellow-rumped Warbler, White-crowned Sparrow and Merlin.

PAFN Birdathon (see last 2 page for pledge sheet form & checklist)

When: any day between May 22 and May 31, 2003.

Participants will try to raise money for the Club by getting pledges for the number of species identified by them on this day. On May 31 participants will meet at Benita's place at 5:00 PM for a potluck salad supper and review. Benita Richardson lives at 97 Heather St. W., which is off Drive-in Rd. in Pembroke's east end. Ph: 735-5404.

Dates of the Algonquin PP Counts are:

East Side Butterfly Count - Sat. May 31

Algonquin Dragonfly Count - Sun. July 6

Contact: colin.jones@mnr.gov.on.ca

Lake Dore Butterfly Count

Date: Saturday, July 5, 2003 (Rain/wind date, Sunday, July 6).

Time: 9 AM

Organiser: Chris Michener 625-2263.

Meet at the parking area Hwy. 41 and County Rd.30. Bring butterfly field guide, binoculars, footwear (optional) for the bog, net (for catch & release) and lunch. A map of the Count circle and species list will be available. A participants' fee (under 12 free) of \$3 is asked to cover publishing costs of the North American results (North American Butterfly Association). A partial subsidy is paid by the PAFN as fees are paid in \$US.



Arare butterfly in Renfrew County, this female Eastern Tailed Blue is laying an egg in a flower bud near the Dismal Canal in North Carolina. photo by chris michener

Hog Island Butterfly Count

Date: Sat., July 12, 2003 (lousy weather day, Sun., July 13).

Time: 9 AM.

Organiser: Chris Michener 625-2263.

Meet at Mullen's Esso, Pembroke St. E. (Old Hwy.17, near the turn to Quebec). The Count Circle for this butterfly Count is half in Ontario and half in Quebec.

PAFN Events cont'd ...-

In the past, some groups have gone to the Westmeath area; others have butterflied on Allumette Island. You can choose the area you prefer. Maps of the circle and checklists will be available. A participants fee (under 12 free) of \$3 is asked to cover publishing costs. See previous event.

The 4th Lake Dore Odonate Count.

Date: Sat., August 2, 2003 (lousy weather day Sun., August 3)

Time: 9 AM.

Organiser: Carey Purdon 625-2610.

This has proven to be an excellent opportunity for all of us to appreciate this group of insects. We have had rewarding counts to date despite being near the end of the flight season. The format will be similar to the previous years... search for dragonflies and damselflies within a 7.5 mile radius of Biederman Park, Lake Dore. Meet at parking area at Hwy.41 and Cty. Rd. 30 (Lake Dore Rd.). Picture guides will be available as well as experienced 'odonaters'. A large insect net, optional rubber boots, close focus binoculars, sun screen and lunch/water are suggested. There is no fee for this Count.

Marina/Waterfront Bird Walk.

Date: Saturday, August 23, 2003

Time: 8 AM.

Trip Leader: Ken Hooles 735-4430.

Meet at the Pembroke marina, by the mouth of the Muskrat River in Pembroke. Ken will introduce us to migrant birdlife along the Pembroke waterfront. There are usually gulls, terns, ducks, geese, cormorants and songbirds such as vireos, warblers, sparrows and finches. Surprises usually occur and it's a good social outing... a chance to meet some very nice people!

W e b H i t s

choice internet sites

Native Flowers for the garden

“There is a secret Canadian garden, composed of sky, sun and native plants. Against a backdrop of huge horizons, the unforgiving summer sun rears a crop of unique perennials. Here are 10 native species, found from coast to coast, that can climb into the beds of any garden and snuggle down in comfort.” Diana Beresford-Kroeger

1. Wild Sweet William, *Phlox divaricata*
2. Celandine poppy, *Stylophorum diphyllum*
3. White trillium, *Trillium grandiflorum*
4. Giant hyssop, *Agastache foeniculum*
5. Bowman's root, *Veronicastrum virginicum*
6. B.C. larkspur, *Delphinium menziesii*
7. White false indigo, *Baptista leucantha*
8. Bee balm, *Monarda didyma*
9. Coneflower, *Echinacea purpurea*
10. Virginia bluebell, *Mertensia virginica*



(http://www.cnf.ca/naturecanada/spring01/nc_sp01_flower1.html)

Editor: From the Canadian Nature Federation Web Site. Each flower has a link to a picture and information about the plant.

Exploring our backyard

ValleyExplore.com is an online guide to walking, biking, driving, cross-country skiing, canoeing and waterfalls in the Ottawa Valley, Ontario.



The guides provide information, maps, and photographs in an easy to navigate format to connect you to the numerous beautiful locations in the Ottawa Valley. Explore rivers, valleys, highlands, roadways, trails and the many picturesque rural hamlets, villages and towns.

(<http://www.valleyexplore.com/index.html>)

Editor: This site is a Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation project.

Wild Flowers & Other Flora - Eastern Ontario Region and Eagle Lake at Parham & Tichborne, ON

“All of us strive to protect our lake environment. Part of this is an appreciation of the wildflowers, shrubs and vines that grace the woodlands, fields, roadsides and shorelines of the Eagle Lake district. This partial catalogue is an attempt to increase awareness of the beauty of our local flora and to assist in their identification.



Eagle Lake is located in Eastern Ontario, 17 km (about 11 miles) south of the junction of Highways 7 and 38, near the villages of Parham and Tichborne and 55 km (33 miles) north of Kingston.”

<http://www.pathologyimagesinc.com/wildflowers/index.html>

Editor: Wildflower photos (catalogue of excellent images compiled and "published" on the web by Irving Dardick). Must see to be believed!

Watch the transformation! - Schoolgrounds changed before your eyes.

Canadian Biodiversity Institute has this nifty site to encourage schoolground transformation.

<http://www.schoolgrounds.ca/schoolgrounds/>

the Old Field Garden



Welcome to the Old Field Habitat Garden's home page.... The Garden is an ongoing landscape restoration project, located approximately 65 kilometers south of Ottawa in eastern Ontario, Canada. Initiated in 1984 by Philip Fry with the help of his family, friends, and students, the Garden's purpose is to enrich the biodiversity of a fifteen-acre parcel of abandoned pasture. The transformation of this property into a garden has relied on the site's geophysical and biological characteristics (its climate, topography, soil types, drainage, and the natural processes of plant succession) as well as natural and social history. To date, by focussing on the re-introduction of regional flora as a key to ecological regeneration, five distinct micro-habitats have been created....

...Our wildflower nursery, originally set up to provide appropriate indigenous

stock for our planting program, now offers over ninety species of native plants for sale at reasonable prices.

<http://www3.sympatico.ca/oldfieldgarden/>

NeilyWorld. Birding Ottawa, Favourite Outlying Sites

- Adirondack Park - 1
- Alfred Bog - 2
- Algonquin Provincial Park - 3
- Amherst Island - 4
- Beauharnois Dam - 5 *
- Canoe Lake - 6
- Carden Plain - 7
- Chaffey's Locks - 8
- Cooper Marsh - 9 *
- Cornwall Dam - 10
- Derby Hill - 11
- Île du Grand Calumet - 12 *
- Île Morrison - 13 *
- Lake Champlain - 14
- Lake Doré - 15
- La Vérendrye Reserve - 16 *
- Mont Sir-Wilfred - 17 *
- Papineau-Labelle Reserve - 18 *
- Presqu'île Provincial Park - 19
- Prince Edward Point - 20
- Rapides-des-Joachims - 21 *
- Upper Canada MBS - 22 *



* Indicates that page is not enabled.

<http://members.rogers.com/larry.neily/fosites.htm>

Editor: Larry has done a good service to birders who like to explore a little farther afield. Our Lake Dore rates highly on Larry's birding locations.

Adventures with a Red-necked Grebe
by Lauren Trute

On the afternoon of February 26th, the Ministry of Natural Resources office received a call from a gentleman on the Achray Road who had found a bird in his field. He believed the bird to be a Red-necked Grebe and that it was unable to fly. When he approached the bird it attempted to dive into the snow, and he was able to pick it up and put in it a box. Joffre Cote (one of our area biologists) and I went out to to have a look at the bird. When we arrived, we were greeted by the gentleman and a box emitting a very loud nasal gaaa! gaaa!

By this point I was very excited, first because I love to get a close-up look at critters, and second I was about to get a lifer! So I donned some skidoo mitts and opened the box and found a very feisty bird that lunged at my hands without a second thought. A Red-necked Grebe it was! The chestnut reddish colour was beginning to



appear on both sides of its neck and its bill was beginning to get its bright yellow colour.

The fellow that found it also raises sheep, and one of his ewe's had

lambed early and he had the tiny lamb in the house by the fire. I'm not sure who was more confused, but every time that lamb would "baaaaa" the grebe would respond with a loud "gaaaa"!!!

About 20 pictures later, we had to figure out what to do with this critter. It was full of energy, but we were unsure if it was able to fly, so we boxed it back up and took it back to the MNR office, with the intention of taking it to the Wild Bird Care Centre in Ottawa in the morning.

Well, the ride to the office really ticked it off (maybe it knew it was riding in a FORD!), and when it came out of the box for a few more pictures it was out for blood!

There didn't seem to be anything wrong with it, and it was definitely feisty, so we decided to let it go in some open water. I must admit that it didn't occur to me that maybe all it needed was some water to launch from! So, back into the box again and we (District Ecologist Daryl Coulson and I) went to find some water. We ended up at the bridge between Cotnam's and Morrison Island, below the rapids. There was a good piece of open water, and a few Common Goldeneye were swimming about. I released the bird



into the water while Daryl photographed the launch. Our feathered friend took to the water like...well, like a grebe to water. It re-arranged its feathers, and came part-way out of the water stretching its wings. We watched it have several drinks of that good Valley water before it drifted out of sight. I felt very fortunate to have had the privilege of seeing and handling such an interesting bird...even more so as it drifted further and further away. Safe flight, and... work on those landings!



Eganville CBC - December 15, 2002

by Carey Purdon

This was another great year for the Christmas Bird Count. The feeder watchers added the only new bird to the count, Wild Turkey. This was an introduced bird to the local area and noted on the CBC's of Pembroke and Killaloe this year as well. Great find !

The Golden Lake birders, Sheldon, Jason & Christina Davis and Jean Brereton, tallied an outstanding 26 species (453 Individuals).

The Mink Lake birders, Chris Michener and Jason Dombroskie, tallied 24 species and a total of 638 birds! Both sectors found Canada Geese, Mallards, excellent numbers of Mourning and Rock Doves, European Starlings and goldfinches.

The Birders in Green Lake sector, Manson Fleguel and Merv Fediuk, were birding only for a few hours but managed a very respectable 14 species (278 individuals).

Gwen Purdon was quite excited when she enticed a Barred Owl to call in the Augsburg sector, which recorded 21 species (417 Individuals).

Carey Purdon had average numbers of the common land birds in the Hwy. 41 Sector and had 12 species (104 individuals).

Over all we had 33 species of 1982 individuals and a new count high of Rock Doves (319). A paucity of Evening Grosbeaks, Siskins (1 found at a feeder) and a lack of Pine Grosbeaks, crossbills, and redpolls was distinctly noted this year. This was noted on the Pembroke and Killaloe counts as well.

This is the first count in recent memory that I can recall birding with no gloves and a light coat. Excellent weather, super effort by all the birders and a new species made this a memorable count. Great work all!!

Until next year,
Carey



Wild Turkeys near Westmeath
photo chris michener

The Pembroke CBC - December 14, 2002
by Manson Fleguel

After the spectacular results from 2001, this year was anticlimactic in the results. However, there is never a bad day of birding and from the enthusiasm expressed by the 2002 participants, I have to conclude it too was a big success. Thanks to all who took part.

This year there were 20 field birders spread over the 6 sectors in the Pembroke circle. 48 feeders were watched, and again, feeder watchers provided an additional 5 species that the field people were unable to find. Our final count was 42 species, down from last year's 61 species. Total birds counted were 6,699, up considerably from last years 5,821. Most feeder watchers reported less birds at their feeders, probably due to the abundant wild seed crops in the bush. A notable event this year... no Evening Grosbeaks were counted, a first in the 26-year history of this count! As of the writing of this account in late December 2002, there is no explanation for their absence and most other counts in Eastern Ontario were also without this species.

On a sector by sector basis, this report starts with the one having the highest number of species found. This honour went to 3E, led by the co-ordinator Ken Hooles. His field birders were Pat Hooles, Jack Rumbles and Merv Fediuk (part of the day). Feeder watchers were Floyd and Attie Milton, Dave and Nora Potts, Ron Bertrand, Ray Virtue, Bob and Julie Pick, Karl Remus, Jack and Barbara Darbyshire, John and Marvail MacGillivray, Nancy Armstrong, Merv and Mark Dougherty, Ray Brazeau, Marg Anderson, Francis Marcotte, Sue Ellis, Diane Thrasher, Wendell McLaughlin, Harry and Marie Fick, Marilyn Rumbles, Lorna Fediuk, Ruth Mills, Marilyn Kruschenske and Mark Thrasher. They found an excellent 30 species, including the only Cooper's Hawk, 22 Wild Turkeys, the first time they have been reported on our count, Barred Owl and 2 Northern cardinals.

Close behind was sector 1E with 29 species. Bruce DiLabio was the lone field birder and Einar Lund was the only feeder watcher. This sector reported the only Ring-necked Duck, Long-tailed Ducks, Barrow's Goldeneyes, Hooded Mergansers, Buffleheads, Rough-legged Hawk and American Kestrel. The sector was helped by the fact that the Ottawa River was well frozen and concentrated the waterfowl in the open areas at the Quebec bridge.

Sector 2N had 24 species. Carey and Gwen Purdon, Bruce Hood, Olissia Stechishen and Moe Guimond were the field people while feeders were watched by Viola Nitschke, Keith and Alice Curry, Ivy Levoy, Judy Wolfgram, Vic Harmer and Ross Barkell. Viola Nitschke had a Sharp-shinned Hawk harassing the birds at her feeder (only one reported on the count) and a Merlin was found in 2N, the first time ever on our count.

23 species were found in 2S. Co-ordinated by Chris Michener, his field people were Jean Brereton and Jason Dombroskie. Feeder watchers were Mark Raglin, Dwight and Lucy Dickerson, Erna Maves, Dawn and Tom Farnel and Sheila and Gary Bucholtz. Reported from this sector was 1 of 2 Black-

backed Woodpeckers, a high 7 Brown Creepers, and most of the Purple Finches.

3W had 22 species. Piloted by Myron Loback, his field birders were George Young, Teresa Frechette and Benita Richardson. This was Benita's first count and by all reports it won't be her last!



Feeder watchers were Judy Fleguel, Gary and Sue Walton, Jeremy, Corrie and Joshua Inglis, Leona Junop, Wes Loback, A.J. Recoskie, Judy Siegel and Harold Wirth. Good birds in this sector included 1 of 2 Ring-billed Gulls, and a high-count (6) of Pileated Woodpeckers.

Sector 1W also had 22 species found. Field birders were Robin Cunningham, Alain Vallieres, Manson Fleguel and Merv Fediuk (part of the day). Howard and Doris McLean, Marcel Mantha and Jean Berrigan watched feeders. The only 3 American Robins were found in this sector.

The following is a listing and the numbers found (in brackets) of all species reported on the count. (CW) means the species was reported during the count week but not on the day:

Canada Goose (904)	Ring-necked Duck (1)	Long-tailed Duck (3)
Common Goldeneye (287)	Barrow's Goldeneye (3)	Bufflehead (4)
Hooded Merganser (2)	Common Merganser (34)	Bald Eagle (5)
Golden Eagle (CW)	Sharp-shinned Hawk (1)	Cooper's Hawk (1)
Rough-legged Hawk (1)	American Kestrel (1)	Merlin (1)
Ruffed Grouse (14)	Wild Turkey (22)	Ring-billed Gull (2)
Rock Dove (450)	Mourning Dove (340)	Barred Owl (1)
Downy Woodpecker (51)	Hairy Woodpecker (60)	Black-back. Wood(2)
Pileated Woodpecker (14)	Blue Jay (399)	American Crow (305)
Common Raven (120)	Bl-capped Chickadee (925)	Red-br. Nuthatch (74)
White-br. Nuthatch (71)	Brown Creeper (11)	Golden Cr. Kinglet (8)
American Robin (3)	Northern Shrike (CW)	Euro. Starling (318)
Northern Cardinal (2)	Am. Tree Sparrow (149)	Dark-eyed Junco (22)
Snow Bunting (1460)	Purple Finch (18)	House Finch (28)
American Goldfinch (480)	House Sparrow (100)	

FON news for member groups

Editor: The following is a selection of articles from the FON newsletter, sent to member groups.

FOR MEMBER
GROUPS



Merchandise

The Federation of Ontario Naturalists offers great **fundraising ideas** for all member groups. FON sells many of our merchandise items “in bulk” at wholesale costs to member groups. This provides a great chance for groups to sell the items at retail costs and make a profit!

New T-shirts Available!

FON is now offering new t-shirts which feature our new family of logos as seen below. Please contact Jennifer Baker for more information on these great shirts.



Nature Reserve Cards

Use the note cards from our nature reserves, which feature five gorgeous colour images to send greetings and notes.

T-Shirts

In addition to our popular short-sleeved t-shirts, long-sleeved t-shirts in the Frogs of Ontario and Butterflies of Ontario designs are available. We also have our popular woodcut-style t-shirt, featuring a wood thrush.

For more information on how your group can raise funds by selling FON products, contact Jennifer Baker at 1-800-440-2366 ext.224 / jenniferb@ontarionature.org.

FON Spring 2003 Regional Meetings

The spring regional meetings are coming to your area soon, be sure to mark the meeting dates in your calendar and encourage representatives from your group to attend! Ontario East, May 10 in Kingston. Manson Fleguel is the PAFN representative to the FON. If you are interested in going to these regional meetings, please let him know. Manson can be reached at 732-7703 or by email at mfleguel@nrtco.net.

Fall 2002 Regional Meeting Highlights

Regional issues include: stewardship and restoration, environmental education, peat extraction, water taking, EACs and ATVs.

- Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club and Vankleek Hill Nature Society have committed money to the Nature Conservancy of Canada to help with the Alfred Bog acquisition. (editor: The PAFN donated some money to the Alfred Bog Acquisition Fund)

- Trees were stolen from one of the Kingston Field Naturalists' (KFN) proper-

ties. Contact information for an environmental law association was provided and KFN will press charges if the person(s) is found.

- The groups were interested to hear a quick summary of the relationships between different environmental organizations. This summary is available if other groups are interested.

Field Naturalists Focus On Community Forest Plan

When the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources downloaded management of County forests to County governments last year, the County of Lanark decided to appoint a team of three experts (The Management Team) to set up a Business Plan to manage the lands. Part of the team's mandate was to involve the public in consultations throughout the process. Recently, the management team produced a draft of the plan and sent it out to various groups for comments.

Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists (MVFN) was one of those groups. MVFN has been involved with the process since the beginning. They attended public meetings and responded to survey questionnaires. MVFN member and Chair of the MVFN Natural Resources Issues Committee Dr. Jim Bendell, participated on the plan's advisory committee. Recently, a small group of interested MVFN members met to pour over the Draft Plan and submit it's comments on behalf of MVFN. Key to the response to the Draft Plan was an appeal for inventory of all of the natural aspects of the community forested lands, recognizing that good management of these resources cannot proceed in an orderly way without knowing what is there.

Speaker Helps Field Naturalists Rediscover Trees

There are probably many ways of looking at a forest, but surely the most manageable method is to focus on a single tree. This was the message delivered by one of Canada's noted lichenologists Rob Lee, at the first autumn meeting of the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists (MVFN). Rob Lee, an award winning member of the Ottawa Field Naturalists' and leader of the Macoun Field Naturalists Club for junior members, told the audience of MVFN members and guests of a ten year project to identify and study individual trees in an NCC forest in West Ottawa. Entitled "Hooked on Trees", each Macoun member adopted their own tree ten years ago, sketched and photographed and studied all the field marks, the tree's attributes and its interaction with the rest of the forest. In subsequent years, the members returned to the forest, found their personal tree and updated their information on it.

Using a series of excellent colour slides, Lee illustrated, for example, a hickory tree adopted by a Macoun member, who listed its age, timing of leaves in spring and fall patterns, how and when it produced nuts and other special features of the tree. By the time the child is ten years older, he will have learned not only the biology of this one tree but, by comparing notes from others, will become very knowledgeable about the entire life of the forest.

Take Action Plan For High School Students

This one-of-a-kind guide outlines conservation, monitoring and awareness projects across Ontario that high school students can complete as part of their required 40 hours of community service. It is available to teachers, students and clubs - anyone interested in environmental ways of completing the 40 hours of volunteer service. Contact Helen Gault, 1-800 440 2366, ext. 269 or heleng@ontarionature.org for a copy or download it from the FON website www.ontarionature.org

Train-the-Trainer Workshop

FON's educators' workshops focus on ways of bringing nature into the classroom and connecting kids with nature using curriculum connections as well as tips and techniques for leading nature walks. A workshop was held for the Science Teachers Ass'n Conference in Toronto in November. Another workshop is planned for the new year to be held at FON headquarters in Don Mills with student teachers from University of Toronto.

Calling All Nature Photographers

Seasons' 38th annual nature photo contest is on! Best in Show Grand Prize is a weekend nature retreat for two at a lighthouse on the Bruce Peninsula's Flowerpot Island. Other prizes include a Pentax Espio95WR camera, Bausch & Lomb spotting scope from Bushnell, Bausch & Lomb Legacy Compact 8x24 binoculars from Efston Science, an Astral jacket from Mountain Equipment Co-op, a Chalet bird feeder from Mill Creek Seed Co. and a selection of nature books, including Algonquin Wildlife by Norm Quinn from Heritage Books. Contestants can enter photos in five categories, including Flora, Fauna, Ontario wilderness, Shapes and colour, and In accord with nature. The deadline for entries is Friday, April 11, 2003 and winners will be announced at FON's annual conference in May. Look for the photo contest entry form in Seasons' winter 2002 issue or on-line at www.ontarionature.org. For more information contact Nancy Clark at 416-444-8419, ext. 238.

