



FRIENDS OF THE PETAWAWA RESEARCH FOREST INC.

NEWSLETTER #10
(February 2008)

This is our first newsletter of 2008 (#10 in the series), intended to bring you up to date on recent developments in our organization and the Petawawa Research Forest. Please refer to our website www.friendsofprf.ca (*Note new web address) for previous newsletters, more detailed organizational information and a variety of useful links.

Please take note that your 2008 charitable membership donations will be gratefully received – see page 3 for detachable form.

Board of Directors: The 2008 Board of Directors (BOD) as elected by acclamation at the Annual General Meeting (#5) on November 7, 2007 at the Deep River Library, is as follows:

Chairman	Earl Berry	(613) 584-7773
Vice President	Frank Knaapen	(613) 735-4700 Local 2741
Treasurer & Membership	Susan Yatabe	(613) 584-3311 Local 3435
Secretary	Kathleen Burgess	(613) 687-2214
Web Site	Liz Mitchel	(613) 584-2409
Board Member	Robin Cunningham	(613) 732-8402
Board Member	C.W. (Kit) Yeatman	(613) 584-1416
Board Member	E.K. (Kris) Morgenstern	(613) 735-5638
Board Member	Tom Moore	(613) 584-9354

Projects: The following are continuing or proposed projects of the Friends during 2008:

- **PRF 90th anniversary:** Purchase of a banner announcing the 90th anniversary of the PRF to be situated at the entrance to the station is being investigated.
Other proposed ideas for the anniversary include:
 - ❖ A social event for members in a setting of natural beauty at the PRF, such as Montgomery Lake.
 - ❖ The planting of a tree or installation of a special sculpture at the entrance to the PRF with a plaque commemorating the anniversary.
 - ❖ A ceremonial re-measurement of Permanent Sample Plot 1 (PSP1) on July 18, the date that it was originally measured in 1918.
 The Friends are asking for suggestions from all members for other ideas on how to celebrate this momentous occasion.
- **2008 Fund Raising Campaign:** Our successful fund raising campaign of 2007 will be continued this year with letters sent to many public and private organizations that might be interested in the Friends' program.
- **Ski Trails:** The Maunsell Lake Trail was cleared in 2007 with the help of students from the Algonquin College Forestry program, staff from the PRF and volunteers. The H.S.A. Trail is currently open and the Acer Trail is soon to be open, both because of the efforts of volunteers, the Deep River Ski Club and the PRF staff.
- **Kids' Corner:** A Kids' Corner was set up at the Visitor Centre, sponsored by the Friends, but due to the efforts of Melissa Blimkie, the on-site summer student supervisor.

The public response was very positive. Two “Fun Days” were held at the Visitor Centre with approximately 20-30 children attending each day.

- Construction of benches to be funded by the Friends is being investigated. They will be placed at various spots along the Visitor Centre trails.
- The 2008 Envirothon is being planned, and the Petawawa Research Forest will host the event again this year. Workshops will be held April 16 & 17, and the competition will be held on April 23. The Friends have agreed to make a donation of \$200 to the Renfrew County Stewardship Council for this venture.
- The Chalk River water trail signs should be erected this year as well as many new and renewed trail and road signs.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) – We were fortunate to have Charles Van Wagner as our guest speaker. He spoke on the history of the cross country ski trails of the Petawawa Research Forest, formerly known as the Petawawa National Forestry Institute. He explained how he, along with some other hearty skiers, started the trails when he first arrived at the station in 1960, out of a love for both nature and skiing. He explained how the very first trails were the fire access trails, and how volunteers cleared and mapped over 30 miles of trails, all on their own time, using hand tools. Once the HSA and Maunsell Lake trails around the forestry headquarters were cleared out, they provided pleasant, shorter, family-oriented skiing.

The Deep River Cross-Country Ski Club eventually became involved to help with clearing and maintenance of the trails, and in the mid-70’s, Silver Spoon tours were held there with hot drinks available at midpoint. After the closure of the PNFI in 1995, the trail system began to fall apart, although some skiers continue to break trail and use the shorter trails.

The Friends consider ourselves very fortunate to have members such as Charles who can take us on a trip like this “down memory lane.”

Membership: Our 2007 membership totaled 144 with 48 active members. We have 19 corporate members, including the towns of Deep River, Laurentian Hills, Petawawa and township of Head, Clara and Maria. Four of the corporate members made donations in 2007.

Treasurer’s Report: As of February 8, 2008, the Friends’ account at the Deep River Northern Credit Union stood at \$ 5443.15.

Addresses: The Friends of the PRF Inc. may be contacted as follows:

Canada Post: P.O. Box 2000, Chalk River, ON. K0J 1J0

Web Site [*new address]: www.friendsofprf.ca

Email: friendsofprf@magma.ca

FRIENDS OF THE PETAWAWA RESEARCH FOREST INC.

2008 Membership Time To Renew ! 2008 Membership

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____ Ave/St/Box # _____

City: _____ Province: _____ P. Code: _____

Telephone # _____ Email: _____

Here is my tax-deductible donation of \$_____ (Receipts will be provided for donations of \$10.00 and over) **NOTE:** Membership is free.

For more information and recent news about the Friends, please refer to the Website at: www.friendsofprf.ca or contact us at friendsofprf@magma.ca or telephone: (613) 584-7773 or (613) 732-8402

_____ Yes, I would like to volunteer. (Please note any specific projects of interest in the suggestion section below)

Mail this form to: Friends of the PRF Inc., P.O. Box 2000, Chalk River, ON. K0J 1J0

Charitable # 88812 3007 RR0001

SUGGESTIONS FOR PROJECTS

PRF 90th anniversary celebration – Kids' Corner - Trails - Other

