



## FRIENDS OF THE PETAWAWA RESEARCH FOREST INC.

NEWSLETTER #13  
(October 2009)

This is our second newsletter of 2009 (#13 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](http://www.friendsofprf.ca) for previous newsletters, more detailed organizational information and a variety of useful links.

**FPRF 2009 AGM:** Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 3, 2009** at the Deep River Public Library from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**!! Your attendance at the AGM is important to help determine the future direction and activities of the Friends !!**

**\*\*Please note that your FPRF membership for 2010 should now be renewed. Although membership is free, we will issue charitable receipts for donations of \$10.00 or more. See page 4 for detachable form. Donations for 2010 will be accepted at the AGM or may be mailed to the Friends of the PRF Inc., P.O. Box 2000, Chalk River ON. K0J 1J0.\*\***

**Board of Directors:** The current Board of Directors (BOD) 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 43435
Secretary	Kathleen Burgess	(613) 687-2214
Board Member	Charles Van Wagner	(613) 584-4846
Board Member	Dave Stewart	(613) 646-2195
Board Member	Robin Cunningham	(613) 732-8402
Board Member	C.W. (Kit) Yeatman	(613) 584-1416
<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Tom Moore</i>	<i>(613) 584-9354</i>

**Treasurer's Report:** As of September 9, the Friends' account at the Deep River Northern Credit Union stood at \$4,188.91. Because of the downturn in the economy of the forestry industry, our corporate donations have been all but non-existent.

**Membership:** Our 2009 membership totaled 161 with 55 active members. We have 19 corporate members, including the towns of Deep River, Laurentian Hills, Petawawa and township of Head, Clara and Maria. Two corporate members made donations in 2009, H. Clouthier and Sons, and the Renfrew County Stewardship Committee. To date this year, we have received \$1,341.53 in donations.

**Work Plan:** The Board of Directors of the Friends produces a yearly Work Plan with the idea of initiating additional work projects to be undertaken within the objectives of our Constitution. Our 2009 Work Plan can be seen on our website: [www.friendsofprf.ca](http://www.friendsofprf.ca)

**PRF News:** Since August 2007, the Petawawa Research Forest has been under the direction of the Canadian Wood Fibre Centre (CWFC) with Mr. George Bruemmer as its Executive Director and Mr. Dean Toole from the Atlantic Forestry Centre as its Project Manager. Peter Arbour is presently the PRF Field Coordinator.

- At a meeting in June, the Friends' Board was informed about DND's plans for two large gun displacements to be situated approximately in the centre of the Research Station. Each gun will require 25 hectares (about 63 acres) cleared around it. One benefit of this plan will be improved road access to the middle of PRF which will be good for fire suppression. A PRF land displacement map presented at the Management Committee meeting has been made available to the Friends and will be available at the AGM on November 3.

- Karin van Ewijk, a Ph.D. candidate from Queen's University, this summer established and measured plots within the PRF LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) flight lines in order to correlate the LIDAR data to ecological classification in order to gain insight in invasive species dynamics.

- Dr. Andrew Simons, Associate Professor at Carleton University, continues his work in evolutionary biology at the PRF. His investigations aim both to quantify the extent of environmental fluctuations at different field sites, and to determine the evolutionary outcome of fluctuating selection on the timing of seed germination and bolting behaviour.

- Analysis of samples taken from the PRF Mill Lake spacing trial continues, focusing on different fibre characteristics relative to the various spacings of white spruce. This is a collaboration between the Canadian Wood Fibre Centre (CWFC), Laval, University of Toronto, and University of Quebec.

- A 40-year re-measurement of Cartier Lake Silvicultural Area has been proposed for 2011. This study is investigating the effects of white pine release in pine mixed woods.

- A whole tree harvesting experiment, one of Canada's first biomass studies, set up in 1981, will be re-measured this fall and will provide a comparison of whole tree and conventional clear cut harvesting 30 years after treatment.

- **New biomass study at the PRF:** A new study led by Dr. Suzanne Wetzel, Canadian Wood Fibre Centre (CWFC), Sault Ste Marie, is investigating the advantages of harvesting low quality biomass in pine-mixedwoods for bioenergy purposes. This has two potential advantages: 1. creating new business opportunities from the forest, and 2. the harvest of this low quality biomass would then lead to improved silviculture of these stands by creating more favorable conditions for higher value fibre production in the future.

The work is a collaboration of the CWFC, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) (looking at associated costs and long-term sustainability), as well as University of Toronto (analysis of the harvested biomass and potential uses). Sally Krigston from U of T is doing the biomass characterization work along with her students.

### **2009 PRF Tours:**

- Assistant Deputy Minister of the Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada, Jim Farrell, visited the station with George Bruemmer and others on June 22 and showed a great interest in the PRF and its ongoing work.

- The Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF) Teachers' Tour of the PRF allowed teachers from all over the province the opportunity to look at forestry research and discuss how best to teach forestry in the classroom.

- Lakehead University fourth-year students' tour of the PRF was a two-day tour, part of Lakehead's fall field trip. There was good discussion during the course of the tour, especially around operational forestry.

**FPRF Projects:** The following are continuing or proposed projects of the Friends for 2009:

- **Ski Trails:** The efforts of the Forestry Technician students from Algonquin College, volunteers, the Deep River Ski Club, and PRF staff have ensured that the Maunsell Lake, H.S.A., Hawk and Acer cross country ski trails will be available for use this winter. Trail signs have been purchased by the Friends - with more to come. Trails have been marked with paint, and a new map is available. (See link to "ski trail map" on [www.friendsofprf.ca](http://www.friendsofprf.ca)) We applaud the efforts of all these groups and look forward to enjoying the trails once the snow falls.
- **Benches:** Three sturdy benches purchased by the Friends were placed along the Visitor Centre trails.
- **Water Trail:** The Chalk River Water Trail signs have been completed and erected and the trail boardwalk repaired.
- **Stone Chimney:** A suggestion has been made to recognize the stone chimney of the former staff house – the last standing vestige of the former Petawawa Forest Experiment Station (PFES) on the research station. The Friends will purchase a plaque which will be fastened to the actual chimney explaining some of its history.
- **Renfrew County Outdoor Woodlot Conference:** On October 3, 2009, the Friends will be represented at this venue with a display providing information and membership forms.
- **Webpage:** Although no longer on the Board of Directors, Liz Mitchel is to be thanked for her on-going effort, continually updating the Friends' webpage.
- **Fall Walk in the Forest:** This year's walk will take place on Saturday, October 17, at 10am. Chair of the Friends of PRF, Earl Berry, will once more guide the walk through the Demonstration Forest and the Water Trail.
- **Ottawa Valley Tourist Association (OVTA):** The Friends have agreed to retain their membership in the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association. John Walden and the Visitor Centre Municipal Committee have offered to pay for the ad for the Visitor Centre on the OVTA map, as well as in the 2010 tourist booklet. We thank them for this generous motion, as well as for authorizing the printing of 650 new, updated 2009 Friends' brochures.
- **Envirothon:** The Ontario Envirothon is an interactive environmental education program for youth from Grades 9 to 12, sponsored by the Ontario Forestry Association. Information about this program can be found at: <http://www.ontarioenvirothon.on.ca/>. The local competition took place in April this year, at Logos Land in Cobden. Members of the Friends were involved in volunteering for this educational program.

**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: [www.friendsofprf.ca](http://www.friendsofprf.ca)  
 Email: [phoenix262@live.com](mailto:phoenix262@live.com)

FRIENDS OF THE PETAWAWA RESEARCH FOREST INC.

2010 Membership **Time To Renew!** 2010 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, but we need your donations to continue our work.**

For more information and recent news about the Friends, please refer to the website at: [www.friendsofprf.ca](http://www.friendsofprf.ca) or contact us at [phoenix262@live.com](mailto:phoenix262@live.com) 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)

Charitable # 88812 3007 RR0001  
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**SUGGESTIONS FOR PROJECTS**

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