



FRIENDS OF THE PETAWAWA RESEARCH FOREST INC.

NEWSLETTER #14
(April 2010)

This is our first newsletter of 2010 (#14 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 for previous newsletters, more detailed organizational information and a variety of useful links.

****Please take note that your 2010 charitable membership donations are essential in order to carry out the plans we have for this year. Membership in the FPRF is free, but with the number of corporate donations made to our organization decreasing in the past two years, we really need your donations now to stay afloat. See page 3 of this newsletter for detachable membership and donation form.****

Board of Directors: The 2010 Board of Directors (BOD) was elected by acclamation at the Annual General Meeting (#8) on November 3, 2009 at the Deep River Library.

The possibility of having a student/youth representative on the Board of Directors was discussed and received a very positive response. At our first BOD meeting of 2010, Corey Simpson was introduced and welcomed to the Board. Corey is a former Algonquin College student who has worked and volunteered at the PRF. Her presence as a member of the BOD is very much appreciated and we look forward to working with her.

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
Board Member	Tom Moore	(613) 584-9354
Board Member	Corey Simpson	coreyesimpson@hotmail.com

Projects: The following are continuing or proposed projects of the Friends during 2010:

- 2010 Fund Raising Campaign:** Our fund raising campaign will continue this year with letters being sent to many public and private organizations which might be interested in the Friends' program. Corporate donations have been down sharply in the last two years, probably because of the state of the forest industry in Renfrew County, but attempts will be made to revise our donation request letter and look further for donations in order to continue the plans we have for 2010. We are also going to investigate the possibility of applying for project grants. Any suggestions for fundraising would be appreciated, and may be emailed to us at phoenix262@live.com or written on the donation sheet on page 3 of this newsletter.
- Visitor Centre Highway Signs:** The Visitor Centre highway signs have fallen into disrepair. Estimates to replace the signs (but not the structures holding them as they are sound) with new, aluminum signs were presented at the last Board meeting. The V.C. Municipal Committee is considering sharing in the cost of replacing these signs. Designs are under review and it is hoped that this project will be completed by the summer season.
- Ski Trails:** Because of the efforts of volunteers, the Deep River Ski Club, PRF staff and Forestry Technician students from Algonquin College, who all put forth a great effort to

improve the trails, the Maunsell Lake Trail was well used by skiers this winter. The H.S.A. and the Acer Trails were also open. More trail signs have been purchased by the Friends and a new map is available. (See link to "ski trail map" on www.friendsofprf.ca)

- **Benches:** The benches purchased by the Friends in 2009 were placed at various spots along the Visitor Centre trails and were well used and appreciated.
- **Water Trail:** The Chalk River Water Trail boardwalk is still in dire need of repair and is under discussion. Subject to the approval of the manager of the PRF, the Friends intend to contribute to the necessary maintenance and upgrading cost repairs. The V.C. tree house will remain closed due to safety concerns, however.
- **Stone Chimney:** Charles van Wagner and Kit Yeatman have been very busy with this project and at the last Board meeting, distributed copies of the proposed wording for a sign and plaque to be put on/near the stone chimney of the former staff house. Some clean-up of the site will need to take place. The sign, with bilingual wording and a picture of the original house, will be erected near the road, so that visitors will be aware of the chimney and its relevance. A brass plaque will be fastened to the chimney itself.
- **School Sugarbush Program:** A donation of \$384 was given to Ian Miller and Michelle Stein to purchase maple syrup for the school sugarbush program. The Friends feel strongly that this project continue and recognize its importance to local school children.
- **Ontario Woodlot Association Conference:** The 2010 Woodlot Conference is to be held at the PRF in October of this year.
- **Lecture at the Deep River Library:** The Friends are sponsoring a talk by Frank Ahern on his book, *Algonquin Park Through Time and Space: The history and ecology of Algonquin Park told with satellite imagery and computer graphics* at the Deep River library on May 26th, 2010, from 7 to 8:30 pm.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) – The FPRF AGM was held on November 3, 2009. At that meeting, the relevance of the Friends and their mandate to support, promote and protect the Petawawa Research Forest was raised for discussion. Over the past two years, there have been times when the Friends felt their existence was questionable, even losing importance, especially in light of dwindling donations and management changes at the PRF.

In the latter months of 2009, however, things began to look up with the Friends' BOD being included in some station decisions and encouraged to participate in PRF tours. A proposal for a \$1000 donation to the Friends from the Canadian Wood Fibre Centre, Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada, was a positive gesture as well. For now, the Board believes that the Friends of the PRF is a relevant organization that, through its work and volunteering efforts, is following its mandate. The organization will continue.

Membership: Our 2009 membership totaled 160 with approximately 100 active members. We have 19 corporate members, including the towns of Deep River, Laurentian Hills, Petawawa and township of Head, Clara and Maria. Only two corporate members, Hec Clouthier and Sons and the Renfrew County Stewardship Council, made donations to the Friends in 2009.

Treasurer's Report: As of April 21, 2010, the Friends' account at the Deep River Northern Credit Union stood at **\$2 845.96**.

In early March of this year, NRC, Canadian Wood Fibre Centre (CWFC), CFS, presented the Friends of PRF with a grant of \$1000. As this money had to be spent by March 31, 2010, new and replacement Permanent Sample Plot (PSP) signs quickly were purchased. A note of thanks was sent to George Bruemmer, Executive Director, CWFC for initiating this grant.

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
Email:	phoenix262@live.com

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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 or contact us at 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

SUGGESTIONS FOR PROJECTS & FUNDRAISING

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