



FRIENDS OF THE PETAWAWA RESEARCH FOREST INC.

NEWSLETTER #17
(October 2011)

This is our second newsletter of 2011 (#17 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.

FPRF 2011 AGM: Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 1, 2011** at the Deep River Public Library from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Wayne Remus of the Shaw Woods Outdoor Education Centre committee.

Our chairperson, Earl Berry, has informed the Board of his intent to resign from the Board at that time. Robin Cunningham has agreed that if so appointed by the new Board, he will accept the position of Chair for 2012. This still leaves the BOD with vacancies, however, so any nominations or volunteers will be welcomed at the AGM.

!! 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 2012 should now be renewed. Although membership is free, we will issue charitable receipts for donations of \$10.00 or more. See page 3 for detachable form. Donations for 2012 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 2011 Board of Directors (BOD) is as follows. Nominations and changes to the Board for 2012 will be dealt with at the AGM in November.

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	Robin Cunningham	(613) 732-8402
Board Member	C.W. (Kit) Yeatman	(613) 584-1416
Board Member	Tom Moore	(613) 584-9354
2010/11 Board Member/Student Rep.	Nicole Bergevin	(613) 584-1183
2010/11 Board Member/Student Rep.	Kristin Bickell	(613) 297-7995
2010/11 Board Member/Student Rep.	Andrew MacLellan	maci0319@algonquinlive.com

Visitor centre:

During the summer of 2011, approximately 200 visitors stopped in at the PRF Visitor Centre each week, making the total for the two months around **1800** people. The tree house remained closed due to safety concerns. A successful Family Fun Day (Saturday, August 6, 2011) was organized by Michelle Stein and the students working at the V.C. The Friends contributed \$400.00 towards obtaining Little Ray's Reptiles Exhibit from Ottawa, along with some supplies necessary for this venture.

Updates: The following are projects undertaken by the Friends during 2011:

- **Chalk River Water Trail:** The Water Trail is undergoing a complete upgrading and repair thanks to a \$5,500.00 Grant from the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation obtained through the hard work of our three BOD student members led by Kristin Bickell. (After requests for estimates were sent out, Peter arranged a contract to have the work done between September and October 14, 2011.) Also, in July, eleven student volunteers from the Algonquin College Forestry program carried out interim repairs to the trail, leveling the boardwalk and replacing old decking with the help of the PRF staff.
- **Signs:** Robin Cunningham reports that a new dragonfly sign is being prepared and should be ready to be erected for the 2012 season along the Water Trail.
- **Visitor Centre:** A Tri-Council meeting (Head, Clara & Maria, Laurentian Hills and Deep River) regarding the PRF Visitor Centre was held at the Point Alexander auditorium on September 29, 2011, but nothing concrete was decided at that time about the future of the Visitor Centre. Prior to that date, on August 29, 2011, a notice was sent out by the Corporation of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria withdrawing from any future participation in the Visitor Centre, leaving Laurentian Hills, Deep River and Petawawa still involved in the Memorandum of Understanding for the Operation of the Petawawa Research Forest Visitor Centre. Their continued support is yet to be decided.
Because of the uncertainty of the V.C.'s future, combined with the fact that there is no real way of measuring the effectiveness of its map and brochure advertising, the Friends have decided not to continue their membership in the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association for 2012.
- **Expo 150:** The Friends registered for a table at Expo 150 held in Petawawa from Thursday, June 9 to Sunday, June 12. We paid \$54.00 for insurance to cover this venture. The staff of the PRF manned the exhibit for the majority of the time, with volunteers from the Friends' BOD helping as well.
- **Stone Chimney Sign & Plaque:** Kit Yeatman & Charles van Wagner have completed this project. A sign has been made by Speedpro Signs for \$562.74 and is now in place, and a brass plaque to be attached to the chimney itself is to be purchased from Pembroke Trophy Centre. The site has been partially cleared by the PRF staff with more work to be done in the spring. A picnic table donated to the Friends will be placed at the site next year.
- **School Sugarbush Program:** Again this year, the Friends contributed to this worthwhile educational program (run by Michelle Stein and Ian Miller) in the amount of \$320.35 for maple syrup and hot chocolate. The BOD feels that the Friends should continue to fund this program as it falls under our educational mandate.
- **Christmas Party:** Due to liability concerns, the Friends of the PRF will no longer organize the annual PRF/PNFI ex-employees' Christmas party.

Membership: Our 2011 membership totaled 163 with approximately 100 active members. We have 22 corporate members, including the towns of Deep River, Laurentian Hills, Petawawa and the Township of Head, Clara and Maria. We had one corporate donation this year, from the Renfrew County Stewardship Council. Several donations were also made to the Friends through the United Way.

Treasurer's Report: As of October 15, 2011, the Friends' account at the Deep River Northern Credit Union stood at **\$7 677.34**. A grant of \$5 500 from the TF Friends of the Environment was deposited on July 14; it will be used for the upgrading of the Water Trail. A GST rebate cheque of \$119.11 was also deposited.

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:	kmhb1@sympatico.ca

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2012 Membership **Time To Renew!** 2012 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 kmhb1@sympatico.ca or telephone: (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