

## FRIENDS OF THE PETAWAWA RESEARCH FOREST INC.

NEWSLETTER #7  
(September 30, 2006)

## **2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ISSUE**

This is our second newsletter of 2006, written to bring you up to date on recent developments in our organization and the Petawawa Research Forest. Please refer to our website [www.FriendsofPRF.webhop.org](http://www.FriendsofPRF.webhop.org) for previous newsletter issues and more detailed organizational information plus a number of interesting and relevant links.

**Friends 2006 AGM:** The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2006 at the Deep River Public Library from 7:00 p.m to 9:00 p.m. Please note that although membership is free, we will issue charitable receipts for donations of \$10.00 or more. Donations for 2006 will be accepted at the AGM.

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

**Board of Directors:** The current Board of Directors (BOD) is as follows:

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

**Finances:** Thanks to our Membership and Corporate donations the Friends received revenues of \$6,231.29 in 2006 to date. Therefore, as of September 28, 2006 the Friends account at the Northern Credit Union in Deep River amounted to \$7,307.70.

Although sign replacement and renewal are still ongoing, a total of \$1,550.00 has been spent this year leaving \$3,450.00 remaining out of the \$5,000.00 budget adopted during the April 12, 2006 meeting of the BOD. Also, to date a total of \$400.49 has been spent on operating expenses of the Friends for such things as bank service fees, stationary, website, stamps, registration and reporting fees and miscellaneous.

The Friends first Charitable Income Tax Report was submitted and accepted by Revenue Canada on June 12, 2006 and a GST rebate of \$14.14 for 2005 was received.

**Work Plans:** Ever since our inception Friends have been primarily focused on the upgrading, renewal and installation of signs in and around the Visitor Centre and on the various trails. Such work will continue in the future but to a lesser extent as the sign maintenance backlog is brought up to date. As a result the BOD has begun a yearly Work Plan with the idea of detailing other proposed work projects to be undertaken within the objectives of our Constitution. For example, one small educational item undertaken this year is noted in Miscellaneous below.

Our initial 2006 Work Plan effort can be reviewed on the website.

**Projects:** A number of new sign initiatives have been undertaken this year (Birds of the PRF; White Pine Board Grades; Red Pine Plantation Thinning Examples; etc.) most of which can be seen on our website along with an upgraded Water Trail; an enhanced Exhibit Hall; a refurbished Forest Theatre and a display of Antique Forestry Tools. In addition, various maps, signs and displays are under construction to be included in the new Museum room of the Visitor Centre.

**Visitor Centre:** The Visitor Centre was open to the public this year from June 30<sup>th</sup> to September 4<sup>th</sup> staffed by four university students in rotation for seven days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily. Administration, staffing and budgeting for this program is continuing under the jurisdiction of the four municipalities of Petawawa, Deep River, Laurentian Hills and Head, Clara and Maria Townships. According to the records a total of 1,924 visitors viewed the Centre over the summer.

In addition to some of the normal operating costs, the Petawawa Research Forest budgeted and paid for the start of the replacement of the Visitor Centre Museum plus upgrading and replacing various infrastructure items on the grounds and buildings. The former Museum was removed as it was old and dated and the displays (those that were left) were not relevant to the current situation of the Research Forest.

**Membership:** Unless asked to do so (as membership is free) the BOD has decided not to remove any dormant members from the membership list. As a result (including Corporate Members) our 2006 membership totals ??? with ??? active members. With the use of Email our communication costs have dropped significantly with only a few members having to be contacted through Canada Post.

**Forest Walk:** The popular Forest Walk will take place again this year on Saturday, October 14, 2006 starting from the Visitor Centre at 10:00 a.m. Members of the BOD will attend plus other volunteers to guide, explain and enjoy the outing themselves in meeting and greeting the participants. As usual there will be two conducted tours of 2 and 4 km with maps, routes and information sheets provided.

**Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the outing.**

**Miscellaneous:** The Sponsors of the Friends have swelled to a list of 22 due to our continuing fund raising letter campaign. The full list can be seen on our website.

In line with the educational aspect of the Friends mandate a field trip was sponsored with the Ontario Woodlot Association for Grade 7 and 8 students from Keys School in Deep River to visit the PRF on April 28, 2006 to experience the various aspects of a forest site. Due to the number of volunteers accompanying the group the total cost of the trip was only \$107.00 to cover the school bus rental.

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

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

Web Site: [www.FriendsofPRF.webhop.org](http://www.FriendsofPRF.webhop.org) Email: [friendsofprf@magma.ca](mailto:friendsofprf@magma.ca)