



Greetings from.....

VOLUME THIRTY ONE

MAY 2000

**PLEA EXECUTIVE**

President: Mieke Schipper  
Vice President: Bev Watson  
Director: Betty Evans

Secretary: Sylvia Robertson  
Director: Bruce Robertson  
Director: Gail Taylor  
Director: Stacey Crough

**The Board of Directors of Kawartha Region Conservation Authority  
invites you to join with them in Recognizing Community  
Conservation Efforts**

**Wednesday June 14, 2000**

**4:30 - 5:00pm Official Opening of the Beach Playground**

**5:00 - 6:00pm Hike through lesser travelled trails at Ken Reid**

**6:00pm Social Fellowship and Barbeque**

**6.45pm Recognition of Community Conservation Efforts**

**7:00pm Presentation of Kawartha Conservation Award for 2000 to  
Pigeon Lake Environmental Association Inc.**

**The Beach Picnic Shelter**

**Ken Reid Conservation Area**

**(In case of rain: Kawartha Field Centre)**

**See map on last page**

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### **President's Message**

by Mieke Schipper

Another successful Environment Day is behind us. Thanks to many volunteer hours and the help from Buckhorn Community Centre, people could enjoy many exhibits of environmental and related products and services, watch demonstrations and purchase trees.

This year, four local elementary schools participated. It was obvious from the displays, the students with their teachers had enthusiastically worked this past year on various environmental topics, such as appropriate farm waste management procedures, the relationship between a clean environment and wildlife in our fields, ponds and streams. Two schools had made videos to bring their message. It was a truly wonderful experience to watch and listen to these youngsters.

All kids who had participated received a medallion with their name engraved. The schools received a plaque and the school libraries received books on ecology, environmental issues and nature for different age groups. (See article on Sponsorships). Bev Watson has been the driving force behind the school projects. And what a marvellous job she did!!

Many people, visitors, exhibitors, vendors offer ideas and names of new exhibitors to make the Environment Day better and better. Some asked for a glimpse in the "kitchen of organizing such a day".

Well, here we go:

In the first week of April, the press release and the public service announcements go out. Participating schools receive an article with relevant information for their school paper which goes out to all school children's

Immediately after the Environment Day, the organizing committee gets together to debrief.

What went well, what needs to be changed etc. In June the schools are contacted with suggestions for their participation that could than be incorporated into their science curriculum..

In September, the date and location are confirmed and a list of publications is compiled for advertising and articles. Those organizations who have three issues of their newsletter per year receive an article and ad for their winter/spring publication.

During October and November, lists of exhibitors and vendors are collated. A theme for the day, speakers and special demonstrations are determined. Potential work crews are established.

The applications and registration forms are sent out in January. The Public Relations plan is being fine tuned and connections with newspapers, radio and tv are made. In February the lay-out of the booths are determined based upon the return of registration forms. The phone campaign begins to jog the memory of vendors and exhibitors who have not registered yet. Trees are ordered and reserved. By the end of March, confirmations are sent to all registrants with a copy of the lay-out indicating their booths, further instructions and a press release which they may want to use in their local community newspaper.

families. PLEA members distribute flyers; ads are purchased for the Earth Day page in various local papers and notifications on various websites are made.

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Here are some ideas we received for next year:

Environment Day from 10am - 4pm.  
Add flyers in the packages for the vendors and exhibitors to distribute  
Move Speakers corner to the cafeteria area.

A big "Thank you to all exhibitors and vendors.  
We hope to see you next year at Saturday  
April 28, 2001

### Request for Sponsorships

PLEA has been able to support the Environment Day financially out of the membership contributions and donations.

Your Board believes that the participation of school children is essential in strengthening all our resolve to protect, preserve and conserve the environment. We will continue to ask schools to participate in Environment Day. To support that, Bev Watson spoke with the librarians and was saddened by the stories she heard how difficult it is for schools today to keep up an up to date library with appropriate books for the different age groups in the school..

PLEA purchased for each school five books on various environmental topics. With the plaque and the medallions, the cost for each school was \$200.00.

At the last Board meeting, we resolved that we actively will pursue an "***adopt a school for environment day***" sponsorship program.

We will offer our membership and the community at large to participate and sponsor a school for \$100.00 as a shared sponsorship or for \$200.00 as a sole sponsorship..

\$150.00 will go to books for the library and \$50.00 to recognition of the school and children's work.

Sponsors will be recognized on the school plaques.

For more information, please contact Bev Watson at 705-657-1911.

We hope to make this a successful program and to involve more and more Kawartha Lakes schools.

## NOTICE

### FROM THE BOARD OF PLEA

**The Board has applied for registration**

**as a charity for income tax purposes.**

**We hope for September that we will**

**have our number which will allow us to**

**issue official receipts for gifts received.**

**This will reduce the donor's income tax**

**payable.**

## **A day at the Environment Day**

**by Jan Solberg**

The first thing I saw when I walked in the Buckhorn Community Centre was the colourful wall across from the entrance with the displays of Buckhorn, Bobcaygeon Dunsford and Omeme Elementary Schools.. The kids were full of enthusiasm and earnestly explained about the Peace Park they had created in Bobcaygeon, about zebra mussels and about environmentally friendly farming. What a treat that was.

Liz McKenzie of Enviro Threads had her colourful hats and bags which kids could decorate themselves in a fascinating display. Clayton Vardy of Time Warp Science and Hobbies had a booth jammed full with environmental games (great for the rainy days at the cottage, or during the long road back home), books, kites and toys. In the middle of the hall was Bry Loyst of the Indian River Reptile Zoo with a variety of reptiles and amphibians, native and exotic species.

PLEA, the Kawartha Fisheries Association and Kawartha Conservation had grouped their booths together with lots of educational materials on lakeshore naturalization and restoration, building of new spawning beds for pickerel, water conservation and why fertilizing your lawn on the lakeshore isn't such a good idea.....  
(Start loving dandelions).

Nature photographer Marry Palmer had many interesting tales about the spots where he photographed that frog or that woodpecker. Beautiful photo's, just beautiful.

Norma of Bargain BuildAll was doing brisk business with people who were looking for unique pieces of building material recovered from old houses and cottages.

Gisele Schubert, of Schubert Lightening had a display of the most effective and energy saving light bulbs and lamps. From her booth you could smell the delightful herbs and spices from Bloomsbury and the Master Gardners. The Bloomsbury Gardens are near Apsley and during the summer you can visit them.

Then there was maple syrup, from Kennedy's Sugarbush, Rainbow Cottages and the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers. It was an educational experience to find out what makes the syrup real good quality and tasting, we did!! Ruth Hunter had her elderberry jellies and bees wax hand cream.

More educational exhibits from The Second Marsh, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, the Ontario Federation of Naturalists, the Friends of the Osprey, Peterborough Waste Reduction, Land Trusts and Gamiing, Centre for Sustainable Lakeshore Living.

The Hillman's of Hooks and Hangers have each year new and interesting cedar furniture, and cast iron products, great for the garden.

The two demonstrations of the Great Lakes Raptors with their Birds of Prey were stunning and awesome.

Paul Gamble had two interesting presentations on "lakeshore rehabilitation" and "water". I am sure I have missed some booths. There were so many, so interesting.

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Thank you PLEA for taking the time to organize this each year. It is an experience the kids and I

*gamííng*

*Ga-mííng: Ojibway - at the shore*

### **Centre for Sustainable Lakeshore Living**

is a fledgling non-profit organization whose mandate it is to support lakeshore dwellers in understanding and participating in the practice of balancing humans needs with the needs of wildlife and lake eco-systems.

The Centre is located on the west shore of Pigeon Lake on a refuge farm, a hundred acres property with forest, wetland and marshes.

The goal is to preserve the natural shoreline and its surrounding property in perpetuity while creating a dynamic natural venue to which the public can come for relaxation, reflection and interactive education in the aspects of low-impact lakeshore living.

The Board and Management of *gamííng* believe in creating the conditions necessary to provide an environment which fosters an inviting, stimulating and rewarding experience for visitors, volunteers and staff

Planned are a nursery with indigenous to the Kawartha's trees, shrubs and plants species, a trail system which will include a boardwalk through the marsh and workshops. Currently, a main trail of approx. 2km to the shoreline and Turtle Bay is complete. Other trails are still "walks in the woods"

For more information call:  
799-6734 or 878-6509  
or e-mail: [mieke.schipper@sympatico.ca](mailto:mieke.schipper@sympatico.ca)

won't soon forget.

### **Workshops at *gamííng***

Getting outside and getting involved with nature is the best way to learn about the natural environment that surrounds us. Our natural surroundings offer a bountiful treasure of adventure, education, leisure activities....and good eating!! *gamííng's* workshops for this year offer something for everyone. Check it out.....

#### **Plant, Shrub & Tree Identification**

*June 24 11:00am - 3:00pm*

Ever pass a tree and wonder what kind it is? Then this workshop is for you! Participants will learn the secrets of identifying various plants, shrubs and trees - particularly those indigenous to the Kawartha Lakes.

#### **Wild Edibles**

*July 8 11:00am - 3:00pm*

*August 26 11:00am - 3:00pm*

This is a fantastic opportunity for those who like some adventure in their eating. Learn about the seasonal offerings of edible wild plants, where to find them and how to prepare them. This hands-on experience will be sure to provide lots of tasty treats.

## Naturally for kids

July 29 11:00am - 3:00pm

Kids and the outdoors are a natural combination sure to result in fun. What better way to prepare for the future than to educate today's youngsters in the appreciation and care of the natural environment? Environmental games and activities guarantee a fun-filled educational day.

## Wild Seed Collection

September 16 11:00am - 3:00pm

Extend your knowledge of indigenous plant, shrub and tree identification by learning how to harvest seeds and cuttings for propagation. You'll learn the when's, where's and how's of bringing nature to your house. Emphasis will be placed on sustainable harvesting methods designed to leave the parent plants unharmed.

## Workshop Details

Cost: All workshops are \$10.00 per person, or \$30.00 per family.

The Naturally for Kids workshop is \$10.00 for the first child in the family and \$7.00 for each additional child in the family.

Special pricing is available for groups.

The workshops facilitator is Brian Slack, currently working with the County of Peterborough on the Trails between Peterborough and Lakefield. Brian is passionate about lakeshore plantings.

For more information or to register, contact 705-799-6734 or 705-878-6509, or e-mail: [mieke.schipper@sympatico.ca](mailto:mieke.schipper@sympatico.ca)

## Plants, shrubs and trees and the wildlife they attract

by Mieke Schipper

**Eastern white cedar** birds such as grackles, robins, house finches

**White spruce** black-capped chickadees, evening grossbeaks, redbreasted nuthatches, white throat sparrows

**Mountain Ash** cardinals, waxwings, robins, northern orioles

**White birch** finches, juncos, redpolls, chickadees, red-breasted nuthatches

**Oaks** blue jays, woodpeckers, squirrels, chipmunks

**Dogwoods** songbirds, deer, rabbits

**Highbush cranberry** waxwings, robins

**Virginia Creeper** thrushes, woodpeckers, warblers, vireos

**New England Aster** butterflies, moths, bees,

**Bee balm** hummingbirds

**Sunflowers** blue jays

**Butterfly weed** monarch caterpillars, butterflies

These are all shrubs, trees, plants and flowers that do well at the lakeshore. They will also offer a habitat for insects such as mayflies, dragonflies and stoneflies. These insects will fall on and in the water and

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attract fish such as pickerel, bass and crappie

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**A great puzzle for a rainy day at the cottage with the kids and/or grandchildren**

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