

## **November Outings Schedule 2010**

**By Mary Voisin**

### **Birding in the Dumfries Townships**

**Tuesday, November 2nd, 2010, 9:00 a.m.**

**Rain date: Wednesday, November 3rd, 2010 9:00 a.m.**

**Neil Taylor 519-893-6469**

#### **Meeting Time/Place**

**9:00 am - Car Park at 401 and Fountain Street (south of Homer Watson) for car pool.**

Join Neil for this tour of some great birding in areas seldom visited by club members. This may include some visits to private properties and certainly to ponds with a variety of ducks as well as Trumpeter Swans. While this will be a road birding trip, Neil plans on some hiking in search of more elusive birds. This will be a full morning outing.

### **Montgomery Wildlife Sanctuary**

**Monday, November 8, 2010**

**Marco DeBruin**

**519-658-5372**

#### **Meeting Time/Place**

**9:30 am at the Montgomery property, drive 9km west from New Dundee on Bridge Street, to the bridge over the Nith River. The property is on your left, just before the bridge.**

This 18 acre property was purchased by Kitchener-Waterloo Field Naturalist as a nature sanctuary in 1973. It was named in honour of Fred Montgomery who taught at K-W Collegiate Institute and the Ontario Agriculture College. He was a founding member of KWFN and was involved in assessing the natural features of the property. As you explore this area with Marco, you will discover that the ecological features are bountiful, as there are four distinct zones to the property: Forested Floodplain, Riparian Zone, Flood Channels and Upland Forest. Birds can be found on the property in all areas and in all seasons. The 1.2 km loop trail is marked with blazes and has 11 numbered posts. Descriptions and information about what is seen at each of these posts is found in The Montgomery Trail Guide. (available through KWFN) Wearing boots is recommended if it has been rainy recently.

Continued on next page -

**Huron Natural Area (HNA)**

**Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Neil Taylor 893-6469**

**Meeting Time/Place**

**9:00 am at the Pavilion area – 801 Trillium Park Dr.**

**Directions – Take Strasburg Rd. south from Bleams Rd. to Trillium Drive . Turn west (right) about 1 km. to the parking lot on south side (left).**

Once again, Neil will lead this hike through a very valuable wildlife area in the City of Kitchener that contains an amazing representation of this area's biodiversity. This regionally significant 107 hectare (360 acre) park is the city's largest park. It contains a cold water stream that supports a population of brook trout flows through the site. There is a diverse habitat including Class I Provincially Significant Wetlands, kettles, ponds, upland maple/beech forest, cultural meadows, as well as pine plantations. Significant species breed here and the ponds are visited by migrants. It has been said that there are more than 400 different plant species, and 18 different vegetation zones. While the wildlife is quieter at this time of year, we may encounter surprises. Join Neil for this fresh air experience and learn about the more than 100 wildlife species, including dragonflies, butterflies, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Some of these species are regionally and provincially significant. This will be about a 3 hour hike, but anyone may leave if they have a time constraint.

**Dickson Wilderness Area and Bannister Lake**

**Tuesday November 16, 2010.**

**Marco DeBruin**

**519-658-5372**

**Meeting Time/Place**

**9:30 am in the carpool parking lot at Fountain St (Homer Watson) and the 401.**

**Fountain is Homer Watson on the Kichener side of the 401**

Dickson is a 98 acre property originally bought by KWFN and donated to the GRCA. The property encompasses two ponds and provides a home for a variety of birds, plants, fungi etc. The boardwalks through the wetland are good locations for bird watching and seeing chickadees and nuthatches up close. Don't forget your camera, binoculars and seed to feed the birds!

If time permits we will also visit Bannister Lake to see any remaining waterfowl. Sandhill cranes have been seen here in the past.

Continued on next page -

### **Drynan Regional Forest**

**Saturday, November 20**

**Valerie Hill**

**518-578-8113**

**Cell 519-841-3228**

#### **Meeting Time/Place**

**9:00 a.m. for car pool at parking lot at Highway 401 & Homer Watson Road, otherwise meet at the Drynan Tract parking lot 9:30 a.m. Located on Concession 8, east of Dumfries Road, south of Greenfield Drive .**

The Drynan Tract is a 45 hectare site located in North Dumfries , a rolling forest with rugged topography and low lying marsh as well as several small lakes. This Carolinian forest provides habitat for several significant species.

### **Christmas Bird Count – Learn the Basics – Part I**

**Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Neil Taylor 893-6469**

#### **Meeting Time/Place:**

**9:00 a. m. Parking lot of Doon Presbyterian Church (with permission) at 35 Roos St., Kitchener, (off Old Mill Rd. in Doon).**

The annual Christmas Bird Count for Kitchener will take place later on December 18<sup>th</sup>. New participants are needed to complete this census and make it successful. If you would like to take part in the count but are unsure of what's involved, then join Neil to learn the basics and gain self-confidence to volunteer for this year's CBC. Dress warmly and bring your binoculars, field guide, notepad, and pen/pencil. To volunteer, see the notice elsewhere in this month's Heron or see the Web Page for contact information. Neil confesses that he is also using this outing as a means of scouting out his area for rare birds in advance of the count itself. You may and really should register for the CBC in advance of this event. Sturdy hiking footwear is suggested. (3 hours)

### **Christmas Bird Count – Learn the Basics – Part II**

**Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Neil Taylor 893-6469**

#### **Meeting Time/Place**

**1:00 p. m. Parking lot of Pioneer Memorial Tower. From Fairway Rd., take King St. E. past Riverbank Dr. and Highway 8. Turn right onto Deer Ridge Dr. and follow to the end, ignoring Pioneer Tower Road. Turn right onto Lookout Lane and proceed to the parking lot.**

This is a repeat of the December 11<sup>th</sup> outing, but in a new location in the area of Doon Pioneer Tower. See the earlier information.

See next page for the calendar "November Outings-at-a-Glance"

*November Outings at a Glance - refer to this Heron for full outing details*

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Dumfries 9:00 am	<b>3</b> Dumfries raindate	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Montgomery Property 9:30 pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Huron Natural Area 9:00 am	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Dickson Wilderness Area 9:30	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Drynan Regional Forest 9am
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> KWFN meeting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				

Cut this calendar out (or photocopy it) and hang somewhere for a quick reference!