



THE WOODLAND OBSERVER

OCTOBER 2016

NIPISSING NATURALISTS CLUB



From the editor:

Colourful October is Women's History Month

Although we are now well into autumn with its brilliant reds and yellows, this issue is primarily devoted to canoeing based on Paul Smylie's presentation at September's meeting.

October is Women's History Month and you will find within the canoe articles reference to a painter who should be better known than she is, Frances Anne Hopkins (1838-1919). She sketched as she travelled by canoe with the *voyageurs* and with her husband who was an official with the Hudson's Bay Company. I featured a painting Frances did, entitled *Voyageurs Passing a Waterfall*. Zoom in and you will see Frances in the canoe and note her outfit. It may be what she was expected to wear, given her position and the times. In 1988, Canada released a stamp of Frances depicting the same painting and an inset sepia photo of her.

Also in the arts and in keeping with paddling, there is another woman, Canada's well-known poet, E. Pauline Johnson (1862-1913), who celebrates the canoe in her poem, *The Song My Paddle Sings*. It is one of my favourite Canadian poems, one I became familiar with when I studied it many decades ago in grade 7 at Central Public School in Timmins. Check it out online if you want to read the entire poem, but here are two stanzas that will resonate with anyone who has paddled:

*August is laughing across the sky,
Laughing while paddle, canoe and I
Drift, drift,
Where the hills uplift
On either side of the current swift.*

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*And up on the hills against the sky,
A fir tree rocking its lullaby
Swings, swings,
Its emerald wings,
Swelling the song that my paddle sings.*

And then there is the campfire song, *My Paddle's Keen and Bright*, that I first learned as a Girl Guide. It was also written by a woman, Margaret Embers McGee (1889-1975).

*My paddle's keen and bright
Flashing with silver
Follow the wild goose flight
Dip, dip and swing
Dip, dip and swing her back
Flashing with silver
Swift as the wild goose flies
Dip, dip and swing*

For some of us, October 15 brings back memories of Hurricane Hazel. In this issue you will find an article on this powerful reminder of the force of nature.

Don't forget to take part in the Bonfield and Mattawa historical tour with historian Elmer Rose on October 15, and don't forget the Laurier Woods geology walk with Larry Dyke on November 5. In addition to learning about minerals that make up the rocks of the Canadian Shield, it may be your last chance this year to still see some autumn colour in Laurier Woods. Details of both outings and this month's club meeting on October 11 are in this issue.



Renee Levesque: rlevesque1948@gmail.com

Paul's summer paddles



Photo by Paul Smylie

By Renee Levesque

The canoe is an iconic symbol of Canada, as iconic as the Common Loon, even if we have never taken wilderness trips with arduous portages, even if all we have done is spend an hour, an afternoon or a day leisurely paddling in the calm waters of our local lakes. So as we approach our sesquicentennial, it is only fitting that for the first Nipissing Naturalists Club meeting of the season on September 13, Paul Smylie talked about the canoe and the four canoe trips he took this summer, three with his nephew and one alone.

Paul provided a background on canoes which were developed over the course of thousands of years by the Native peoples of North America. The word canoe originated from the word *kenu*, meaning dugout.

Dugouts, made of large tree trunks which were shaped and hollowed, were used by the Carib Indians of the Caribbean islands. They were seagoing vessels, boats strong enough to travel between the islands.

Our modern canoe is really a model of the birch bark canoe developed by the Native people of North America from the bark of trees, birch bark being the best bark because it is light, tough, resilient and waterproof. As the commerce in fur trade of early North America grew, so did the need for canoes to traverse our numerous rivers and lakes.

To meet the needs of the fur trade, the French set up the world's first known canoe factory at Trois-Rivieres in about 1750. Many of the canoes the fur traders used were capable of carrying up to 12 people and a cargo weighing up to 2,400 kilograms. (See the article on the following pages about the *coureurs des bois* and the *voyageurs*.)



Photo by Renee Levesque

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Below are the canoe routes Paul took this summer, all within close enough distance from Nipissing District:

Barron River Canyon on the east side of Algonquin Park (photo at right). Paul started at the Achray Campground on Grand Lake and finished at Squirrel Rapides.

Georgian Bay at Killarney. Paul entered at the Chikanishing Creek boat launch and returned there.

Lake Temagami from Lake Temagami access. Paul paddled to Kokoko Lake, doing a loop that brought him back to his starting point.

Lower French River (photo below). Paul put in at Hartley Bay Marina, paddled down the Lower French to Georgian Bay, and from there to the Bustard Islands. He returned by the Lower French to Hartley Bay.



Photo by Paul Smylie

If you are interested in paddling any of these routes and can't find the information online, see Paul. And if you are interested in canoeing and history, it is recommended you read *Canoe Country: The Making of Canada*, by Roy MacGregor.



Photo by Paul Smylie



From *coureur des bois* to *voyageur*

Fort Temiscamingue, photo by Renee Levesque

By Renee Levesque

In addition to telling Nipissing Naturalists Club members about the various canoe trips he took over the summer, Paul briefly spoke about the early skilled canoeists, the *coureurs des bois* and the *voyageurs*.

The *coureurs des bois* (runners of the woods) were independent, unlicensed fur traders of New France who travelled by canoe and snowshoe trading various European items with Native people for furs. The *coureurs* had to be expert canoeists and good businessmen and they had to know how to fish and hunt, as well as snowshoe come the winter when they could no longer travel by canoe. It was physically demanding and very difficult work, but it was good work for those who hoped to make money and those who craved adventure and freedom. Journeys, often in uncharted territories, lasted months and covered thousands of kilometres, with frequent and often difficult portages and paddling for up to 12 hours a day. The mortality rate was high.

Packing the canoe for trading trips meant packing at least 30 articles essential for a successful trading trip and for survival. Trade goods took up the most room and these included cloth, blankets, ammunition, knives, kettles, hatchets, firearms, gunpowder and alcohol.

Most *coureurs* were not well-known, but from our



Shooting the Rapids, by Frances Anne Hopkins

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study of Canadian history, we recognize the names of some: Brulé, Nicolet, des Groseilliers and Radisson, all of whom gained fame also as explorers.

To curb unregulated trade, the itinerant *coureurs* were replaced after 1681 by licensed fur traders called *voyageurs*. Nevertheless, the *coureurs des bois* who were the first to establish trading contact with the Native people became a lasting symbol of the early fur traders.

The *voyageurs* were much the same as the *coureurs des bois*, only they were regulated by and worked for the trading companies, Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company. Although they eclipsed the *coureurs des bois*, the *coureurs* continued to trade without license for several more decades until they finally dwindled and lost their influence.

My husband is directly descended from one of the ten original French families who settled in Canada in the early 1600s. Probably some of his ancestors were *coureurs des bois*, but certainly one, Augustin Romain, of German and French heritage, is identified in his marriage record of 1822 as a *voyageur*. Augustin married in Montreal and lived in Fort Coulonge, about 200 km downstream from Mattawa on the Quebec side of the Ottawa River. At the time, his father-in-law was the Factor of the Hudson's Bay Company post in Fort Coulonge.

Mentioned by Paul and renowned for capturing the "twilight of canoe travel" and the fur trade in watercolour, oil and sketches was Frances Anne Hopkins, 1838 – 1919, an English painter. She was married to Edward Hopkins, an official with the Hudson's Bay Company. While travelling by canoe with her husband on several occasions along some of the most important fur trading routes, Hopkins sketched extensively, recording an important part of Canadian history. In her painting of *Voyageurs Passing a Waterfall* (above), if you look closely or zoom in, you will see Hopkins in the canoe sketching, her husband beside her.



In 1988 a Canadian stamp (below) was issued depicting *Voyageurs Passing a Waterfall* with an inset sepia photograph of Hopkins.

For more information on Hopkins, you might want to read the biography by Thomas Schultze, *Francis Anne Hopkins, Images from Canada*, Penumbra Press, 2008. "This book offers a much-needed look at the oeuvre of a highly gifted and unjustly neglected woman artist, bringing together all of her work with a Canadian theme that is accessible to the public at many galleries and museums, among them the Library and Archives Canada, the Royal Ontario Museum and the Glenbow Museum [in Calgary]."



It all began as a centennial project

By Dick Tafel

Editor's note: Paul made mention in his paddling talk of the annual North Bay-Mattawa canoe race. Below is an article by Dick Tafel about how that popular race came to be. Excerpts from The Nugget, August 19, 1967, are courtesy of Kevan Cowcill who accidentally came across them a year or so ago while looking through microfilm at the North Bay Public Library.

The popular North Bay to Mattawa canoe race is a direct outcrop of the rather remarkable three-day Ville-Marie to North Bay canoe race, a 120-mile race organized for our Centennial Year, 1967.

The race was the culmination of a couple years of preparation by me as chairman and the late Dr. Murray Leatherdale, both of us members of the local Chamber of Commerce Historical Committee.

In August of that year, twenty-seven two-person canoes started off in Lake Temiskaming from Ville-Marie and ended up three days and more than 20 paddling hours later at the west end of Trout Lake by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, then the Department of Lands and Forests. At that time, most of the canoes in the race were two-person canoes, sixteen feet long as opposed to the eighteen-foot canoes used in races today, and had to weigh no less than sixty pounds. One team, however, had only a smaller eleven-foot canoe and they toppled five miles out from the starting point at Ville-Marie.

They were not the only team to topple. Another team, one strongly favoured to win, dumped shortly after leaving shore. The night before the race began, there was a fierce storm in Ville-Marie that toppled hydro poles and plunged Ville-Marie into darkness. This did nothing to deter the canoeists who started off at 7:45 the next morning in drizzling rain to battle six-foot waves in Lake Temiskaming and winds over twenty-five miles per hour.

2 canoes tip in race from Ville Marie to North Bay

VILLE MARIE (Staff)—Teams in 27 canoes fought six-foot waves on Lake Temiskaming today as the Ville Marie-North Bay Centennial canoe race got under way in drizzling rain.

Winds running at 25 miles an hour over the gray, white-capped lake took two canoes out of the race in separate dumpings soon after the 27 teams left the mission beach at Ville Marie at 7.45 a.m.

Five miles out, wind caught the stern of No. 12 canoe, tossing Tom Pinchard and Mike Lowe of Dwight, Ont., into the water.

Pinchard, who is a member of the New Brunswick Voyageur Team, said he was "terribly disappointed."

"The race is everything—but I just didn't bring the right canoe," he said. Pinchard and Lowe were in a 14-footer.

"I'll be back with a bigger one next year," promised Pinchard after the canoe was reached.

The other canoe that was tipped by the waves is thought to have been No. 9, manned by Lucien Robillard of Montreal and Craig Warren of Newport, Vermont. The team was the strong favorite in the race, and was manning a racing shell in which it recently shot to victory in a race at Cooperstown, N.Y.

Richard Tafel, chairman of the committee of three chambers of commerce sponsoring the race, told The Nugget from the scene that the canoes still in the race were spread out and could scarcely be seen by the escort boats, because of the high waves.



Richard Tafel

...
**Eyes
west
Tuesday**

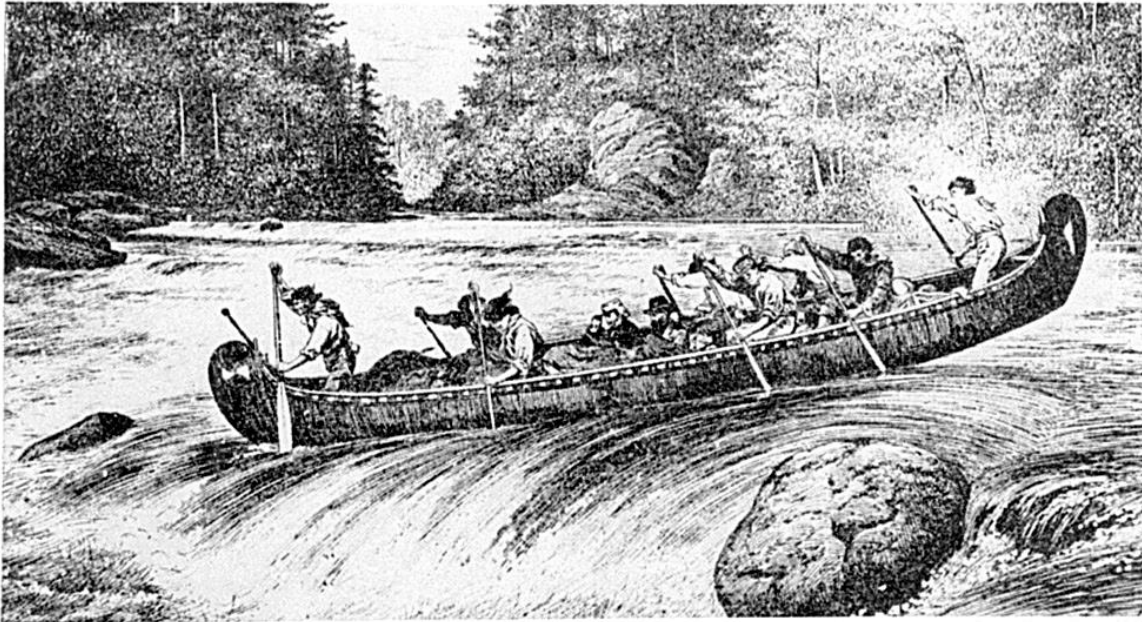
The eyes of North Bay area residents will turn westward to Lake Nipissing Tuesday morning to catch the first glimpses of the Centennial Voyageur Canoe Pageant as the big canoes leave the Great Manitou Island.

Welcoming crowds headed by civic officials from

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I was quoted at the time in *The Nugget* as saying, “This must be as bad as anything the *voyageurs* of old endured.” See sketch below by Frances Anne Hopkins. (By 1679 what is now known as Ville-Marie functioned as a trading post between the French and the Algonquins, and in 1720, the North West Company had opened a trading post there. It became the Hudson’s Bay Company when the two companies merged in 1821.)

The paddlers’ times were noted en route at Temiskaming and Mattawa. The canoeists spent their nights in both these communities before paddling off again the following mornings.



A fur trade canoe on the Mattawa River, Ontario, pictured by Frances Hopkins

A team from British Columbia won the event. This team took a few days off from their efforts within that year's cross-Canada canoe race made up of nine teams of six paddlers per canoe. For the Ville-Marie to North Bay race, the British Columbia team rented a canoe in Temiskaming and made it work successfully for them.

The next few years saw fewer and fewer participants and the last year of the race was in 1971. However, with its demise, the North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority and *The Nugget* promoted a more realistic 64-kilometre one-day race from North Bay downstream to Mattawa. This race, organized by the North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority, marked its 40th anniversary this past summer and has become one of the most sought after long-distance canoe races in Ontario.

Editor's Note: It would be interesting to reinstate the Ville-Marie to North Bay canoe race on a one-time basis only for our sesquicentennial in 2017, although no doubt too late to organize one if not already in the works.



The fall habits of four animals

By Renee Levesque

While out birding in the vicinity of Kiosk at the end of August, Kaye Edmonds saw a bull moose and, foregoing photographing birds, she photographed the bull moose pictured above. By this time of the year, the bulls have grown a new set of antlers and have gained up to 250 pounds of fat or muscle, with neck muscles twice their normal size. The cow moose has also gained weight and grown a new coat. By mid-September, rutting season is underway and lasts until early October.

Moose do not live in groups, do not socialize with other moose during the spring, summer and winter, and do what they can to avoid or evade their predators. But come the autumn, their lives change, with the bulls dramatically competing for breeding rights with the cows which form stable groups during rutting. Rutting battles can last for hours and with bull moose weighing up to 1,600 pounds, the clashes can result in injury and even death.

The porcupine (right), our second largest rodent in North America after the beaver, is a nocturnal animal – the reason so many of us only see them sleeping in trees during the summer months.



Photo by Kaye Edmonds

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Porcupines are solitary animals that do not hibernate. However, they stay close to their dens during the winter and may even den together. Breeding season begins in the fall. The first male that comes along to court does so by sitting in the same tree **below** the female. If another male approaches, he may have to fight for the female, with the dominant male winning the right to mate.



Our largest rodent in North America, the beaver (above), is busy clearing trees and stocking food come October when the first frost appears. Beavers are herbivores, preferring the wood of birch, aspen, alder and maple trees. They will also eat sedges, pondweed and water lilies. They do not hibernate, but instead store sticks and logs in a pile. The snow which accumulates on the pile that is above water helps to keep the water from freezing around the food pile and provides the beaver with a place to breathe outside its lodge.

By late September, young chipmunks have reached their adult size and are busy in their solitary lives gathering and storing their winter bounty. Most are born between mid- April and mid-May, and on June 10 this year while I happened to be looking out our kitchen window, I was fortunate enough to see two young emerge from their burrow for the first time. It was a delight to watch them. They didn't move for the longest time, but just looked around taking in their new world. Then one moved a bit further from the hole, but quickly came running back to be with its sibling.

It did this again and again, one moving away, the other staying put, until both disappeared after about 15 minutes back into their burrow. By the next day, both were scampering around, but close enough to home. However, it wasn't long before they ventured further afield and became acclimatized to the area. At right is a photo I snapped through the kitchen window when they first emerged from their burrow.



Photo by Renee Levesque



Canada's National Bird:

Loon, owl, jay, goose or chickadee?

Text and photos by Renee Levesque

Voting to determine Canada's National Bird closed on August 31, 2016, after approximately 50,000 Canadians voted online over the last 20 months for the bird they think should be designated the national bird of Canada in time for our sesquicentennial in 2017.

The top five birds vying for official national designation are:

1. Common Loon with 13,995 votes
2. Snowy Owl with 8,948 votes
3. Gray Jay with 7,918 votes
4. Canada Goose with 3,616 votes
5. Black-capped Chickadee with 3,324 votes

On September 19, the Royal Canadian Geographic Society convened a panel of five experts to

debate which of the five above birds should become our national bird. This debate was held at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa and was comprised of five experts, each advocating for one of the above five birds. You can watch the debate on YouTube, although you might want to scroll to about minute 32, around which time the debate more or less gets started. See link below.



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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b8-6G58BRo>.

The Royal Canadian Geographic Society will now make its recommendation to be published in the December issue of *Canadian Geographic* magazine. But it will ultimately be up to the Government of Canada to officially determine our national bird. Apparently the Liberals, as of the writing of this article, have not yet said whether they are keen on the idea of a national bird, although the previous Conservative government was supportive of it. I understand that if the Liberals do decide that a national bird is in our sesquicentennial interests, a decision will be made by Parliament early next year. But, unlike Brexit, Parliament is not bound by the vote or the debate arguments, although I am sure they will take the vote and the debate points into serious consideration.

Of the five top birds, three are already provincial birds. The iconic Common Loon is Ontario's; the Snowy Owl is Quebec's; and the Black-capped



Chickadee is New Brunswick's. So what do these provinces do about their provincial bird should one of them be selected? Do they agree to share the bird or do they look for another provincial bird? The Gray Jay and the Canada Goose are not provincial birds, but so few people ever see the Gray Jay, also called the Canada Jay, though it does make its home all across Canada and it does not migrate. The Canada Goose,

another iconic bird, gets a bad rap because of the mess it leaves in city parks. Also, it can be hunted south of the border and do we want our national bird being someone's dinner?



A reminder of the power of nature



Photo from York University Archives

By Renee Levesque

Friday, October 15, 1954 is one of those days that went down in the history books, not because it directly affected two Nipissing Naturalists Club members, Steve Pitt and me, but because on that day, Canada's most famous storm, Hurricane Hazel, struck Toronto and area. It smashed into neighbourhoods along the Humber River where homes were swept off their foundations and left 81 people dead, 30 from one street alone, Raymore Drive in Weston. Other communities hit badly included Mount Dennis, Thistletown, Woodbridge and Long Branch. Holland Marsh, north of Toronto, did not escape the devastation when water backed up from Lake Simcoe, the Holland River and Schomberg Creek.

Hurricane Hazel was one the deadliest storms of the 1954 Atlantic hurricane season. It killed at least 400 people in Haiti before striking as a Category 4 Hurricane near the border of North and South Carolina. It was then projected to dissipate as it travelled 1,100 km over land, but instead it re-intensified and while approaching Ontario merged with a powerful cold front. Despite being downgraded to an extra-tropical storm, it remained as powerful as a Category 1 Hurricane. It stalled over the Greater Toronto Area and pounded the region with winds that reached 110 km an hour and dropped 285 mm or 11.23 inches of rain in 48 hours, rain the area could not handle because the ground was already saturated from previous days of rain.

The total cost of the destruction was estimated at \$100 million (about \$1 billion today). It changed the Toronto landscape forever and resulted in the creation of a Metropolitan and

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Regional Conservation Authority and a regional and more coordinated approach to flood control and water management among conservation authorities, local municipalities and the province.

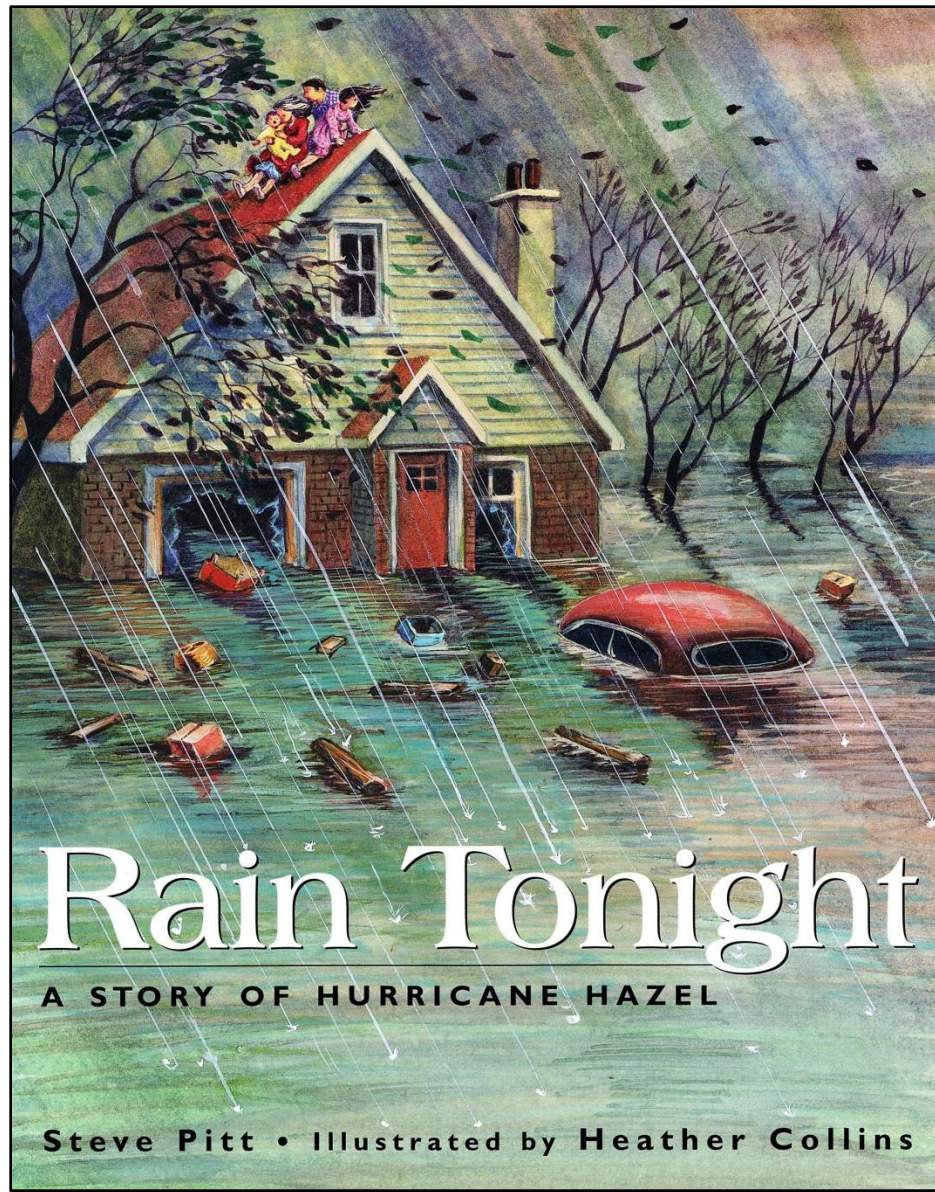
Also after Hazel, “the provincial government amended the Conservation Authorities Act to enable the authority to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes and to regulate that land for the safety of the community.”

Raymore Street was hit so hard it was determined that for safety reasons it could no longer be zoned for residential development. Where the homes once stood is now a park. A bridge that was wiped out has been replaced by a new one, but huge chunks of the old bridge still stand where they were deposited by the flood. There is a Metropolitan Toronto historic plaque by the Raymore Bridge in memory of the storm and its devastation, and at the bridge base and on the retaining wall is a mural, a tribute to those who died.

Steve Pitt was born at Humber Memorial Hospital on October 15 at the height of the storm, less than a kilometre from Raymore Drive and from Fairglan Crescent, another devastated street in Weston. No wonder Steve wrote a young adult book entitled *Rain Tonight, A Story of Hurricane Hazel*, with illustrations by Heather Collins. It is a beautifully written and illustrated book about the Doucette family who lived on Fairglan Crescent.

I lived with my parents and siblings on Parklawn Road in Etobicoke. It was my birthday and my birthday party obviously had to be cancelled, although I wasn’t old enough to understand why some rain would result in a cancellation of my party. I was told that my father helped with some rescue attempts and for days afterwards, I recall the sirens of the ambulances and the fire trucks. To this day, my heart “stops” for a second or two when I hear a siren.

Hurricane Hazel is a reminder of the power of nature.





October club outing focuses on local history

Not only is **Saturday, October 15**, the 62nd anniversary of Hurricane Hazel and the birthdays of club members Steve Pitt and Renee Levesque, but on that day, there will be an **historical tour of Bonfield and Mattawa** with local historian and tour guide, Elmer Rose.

Among other things, see the location of CPR's First Spike and find out the reason for the three crosses on the cliff above Mattawa. Meet at the former **North Bay Visitor's Centre at 9:00 a.m.** for carpooling for a **10:00 a.m. start** from the Bonfield Township Office. If you live close to Bonfield, you can meet instead at the **Township Office** located at **365 Hwy. 531, off Hwy. 17 East and just before Trunk and Maple Roads.**

This is an all day tour, so bring snacks and dress for the weather. There will be some hiking.

There will be a stop for lunch at Valois Restaurant in Mattawa. Or you can bring your own and eat it outdoors at the Lion's Club Park.

Editor's Note: Photo above is of Bonfield in 1909 from the Levesque family collection and photo at right of Mattawa is from my personal postcard collection.



Gateway to Mattawa, Ontario, Canada. —1.

Let's do the twist

By Renee Levesque and Kaye Edmonds

Photos by Kaye Edmonds

Jeremy St. Onge demonstrated cordage to a good turn-out of participants on a beautiful fall Saturday morning in early October in Laurier Woods.

Cordage is the making of rope, thread, or string using natural materials such as cattail leaves, dogbane stalks, basswood bark and stinging nettle, to name but a few.

Kaye Edmonds reports that everyone, including the very young, got totally involved in and thoroughly enjoyed trying their hand at this ancient technology that has remained virtually unchanged over the centuries.

Jeremy showed participants how to prepare cattail leaves for cordage. He demonstrated how to squeeze air bubbles out of the leaves before starting the “twist”, that is the twisting of the cattail leaves to make rope.

Jeremy also demonstrated how to make rope from basswood. The bark of basswood consists of a thin gray outer bark and a thicker layer of inner bark.

It is the inner bark that is used for cordage. The outer bark can be used to weave baskets.

There are YouTube videos on how to make cordage using various natural materials. You might want to check some of these out if you were not able to attend.



Guided walks in Laurier Woods

On **Saturday, November 5, from 10:00 a.m. to noon**, Larry Dyke, Geologist, will lead another **geology walk**, focusing on the minerals that make up the rocks of the Canadian Shield in the North Bay area. Participants will examine outcrops to show how these rocks formed 20 km below the surface of the Earth.

On **Saturday, December 3, from 10:00 a.m. to noon**, Jordan MacMillan will lead a walk on **how foresters protect biodiversity**. Because foresters can determine the effects of landscape and site changes due to natural disturbances on native trees, they can ensure that forestry operations more closely emulate those disturbances. The photo below shows an Eastern Hemlock stand, with trees marked for removal and retention.

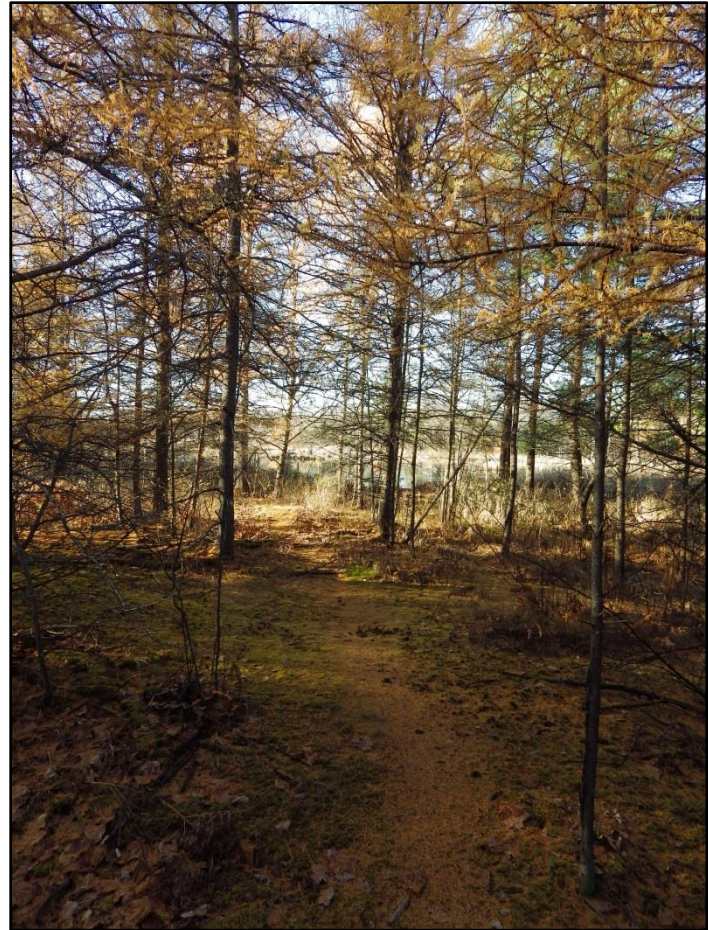


Photo by Renee Levesque



Photo by Fred Pinto

Return of the photo contest



Members will be pleased to know that the photo contest has returned.

As in the past, there are four categories: **flora, fauna, landscape and people enjoying nature.**

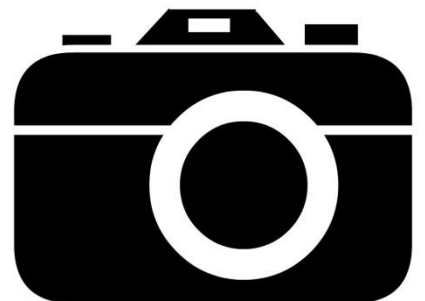
The rules are as follows:

1. Members can submit up to **2 photos per category.**
2. Photos must be taken **within 50 miles or 80 km of North Bay** or on a sanctioned **Nipissing Naturalists Club** outing.
3. Photos must be submitted by **October 31, 2016.**
4. Photos must be taken within the 12 months of the deadline, **from November 1, 2015 to October 31, 2016.**

Time is running out, so get clicking and submitting! Submit your photos to Sarah Wheelan at nipnatsphotos@gmail.com.

Members will get to vote on the best photo in each category at the December 2016 meeting.

Photo above of Kaye Edmonds at Cache Bay by Renee Levesque.



Forests without Borders to be the topic of next club meeting

Nipissing Naturalists Club meets the **second Tuesday of every month in the auditorium at Cassellholme, starting at 7:00 p.m.** The next meeting is **Tuesday, October 11.**

At this meeting, Fred Pinto, Chair of the Board of Trustees of *Forests without Borders*, will talk about *Forests without Borders*, a local charity that helps to protect the environment, not by restricting people, but by helping them develop new livelihoods that make nature valuable to them. The charity, which raises funds to help people in seven countries restore forests, is managed by unpaid volunteers and funds only those projects that become self-funding businesses.

The photo below is of Fred in a sacred forest in Ghana. In this forest, the monkeys and their habitat are protected.



Photo courtesy of Fred Pinto

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Bird Wing

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Gary Sturge, Treasurer

Renee Levesque, Bird Wing Scribe.

The Bird Wing newsletter is published each month, except December, and sent to members by email and posted on Nipissing Naturalists Club website, <http://www.nipnats.com/club-activities/bird-wing/>.

The Woodland Observer is published electronically each month from September to June and sent to members by email and posted on Nipissing Naturalists Club website, <http://www.nipnats.com/> under the link, "Newsletter".

Editor: Renee Levesque: rlevesque1948@gmail.com

Contributors this issue: Kaye Edmonds, Renee Levesque, Fred Pinto, Paul Smylie, and Dick Tafel.

Special thanks to: Club member Steve Pitt for permission to copy his book; York University Archives for the photo of Hurricane Hazel; Kevan Cowcill for the August 1967 *The Nugget* article on the Ville-Marie to North Bay canoe race; and John Levesque for the 1909 photo of Bonfield.

Membership Fees

Annual Nipissing Naturalists Club membership fees are: single \$20.00; family \$30.00.

There is an **additional annual \$5.00 membership fee for Bird Wing** which meets the **fourth Tuesday of every month in the auditorium of the North Bay Public Library from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.** This fee is paid directly to Bird Wing.



The Nipissing Naturalist Club is affiliated with Ontario Nature: <http://www.ontarionature.org/>.