

GRAND

THE GRAND STRATEGY NEWSLETTER

ACTIONS

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 7 - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2000



Grand River
Conservation
Authority



The Grand:
A Canadian
Heritage River

INSIDE

Feature

If Luther Could Talk 1

What's Happening?

Public Opinion and
GRCA Parks 2

How Safe is Your
Dug Well? 4

Grand Strategy
Progress 5

Relay 2000 5

Ploughing Match 5

Conservation

Symposium 6

Heritage Planning 6

Now Available

Reflections on the
Grand 6

Hortop Mill History 7

Look Who's Taking Action

Susan Strachan Johnson
Rosalyn Insley, and
Gail Root 7

Did You Know? 8

Calendar 8

Cover photo

Bogs form a significant part of the wildlife habitat at Luther Marsh. Wyld Lake bog is rich with acid-tolerant plants such as sundews, pitcher plants, sphagnum moss and many other bog vegetation.



IF LUTHER COULD TALK - A HEADWATER STORY

by Liz Yerex, Grand River Conservation Authority

It is nearly 50 years since a dam was constructed across Black Creek, in the upper Grand River watershed, to create the Luther reservoir and relieve serious river flow problems downstream. It took two years to fill Luther Reservoir in the 1950's. Once full, the marsh attracted thousands of migrating waterfowl, which took advantage of this new inland waterbody and the new Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area.

Not only did the waterfowl arrive in flocks, but also drought conditions on the prairies attracted many western birds to the Luther shores. The birding community reported sightings of red-necked grebes, loons, Wilson's phalarope, osprey, black-crowned night herons and even white pelicans. Canvasbacks, red-heads, widgeon and gadwall were commonly observed. Even ruddy ducks were confirmed visitors.

Hunters also discovered Luther. The hunters arrived in large flotillas (like the ducks). With canoes and home made airboats, they tried to conquer this shallow lake with its large stands of flooded timber. Many did not realize that

Luther lies 180 to 300 m (600-1000 feet) above sea level (significantly elevated above the surrounding countryside). This greater elevation made weather conditions at Luther extreme and challenging. If it wasn't windy it was foggy. Luther usually won these battles leaving many lost or stranded.

Luther Marsh, lying in both Wellington and Dufferin Counties, has a story to tell on every inch of its woodlands, marsh and bogs. If Luther could talk it would tell of the many friends that have come and gone – some who loved the area so much their ashes were spread across this wonderful wetland. You either love Luther or you don't, but Luther always has stories to tell.

One story is told of an elderly gentleman who traditionally hunted from his favorite blind off the Big Island shoreline with his faithful black lab. When the man did not return from the evening hunt one dark, foggy night, Lands and Forest officials searched high and low. He was found the next day. He had passed away, sitting in his blind with the dog at his side. The dog

• See page 2

LUTHER

from page one

still held in his mouth the last duck shot by the hunter, and waited patiently for his master to take the bird.

The remnant homesteads seen in Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area are a reminder of the families that worked the lands before the reservoir was created. The Townsends, Tovells, Turny, Totsch, Brisley, Ariss and Emerson Farms were all part of the landscape. The Rodgers homestead, on what was known as Windmill Island, still remains as a landmark. The island has more recently been renamed Rodgers Island after the family that originally settled, cleared and drained the land in 1827.

If Luther could talk, it would tell a story of the unique breed of dedicated people who worked and studied at Luther since the Area was created. Luther boasts only two Superintendents since its birth in the 1950s. Many researchers spent hours waist deep studying the 500 hectare Wylde Lake Bog, the guardian of some of Luther's rare plants, and the marsh. Some researchers still return to check on this naturalist's paradise. Old birders and record keepers return to ask about the status of the heronry, the osprey, black terns and Luther's southern clan of nesting loons. They ask if the black bear still visits the west side of the marsh for blueberries. Some even check on the hefty population of deer flies, which were also studied by one hardy researcher.

Luther is now middle-aged like many of us. At middle age we get comfortable and tend to forget the original reason for the creation of Luther reservoir. Without the reservoir, especially in the dry years of 1998 and 1999, the river below Grand Valley would be virtually dry during the summer.

When you are middle aged, you must sometimes depend on friends and partners to give you a boost.



At Pinehurst Lake Conservation Area, between Cambridge and Paris, summer living is easy. Here, campers can enjoy canoeing and fishing amid relaxing scenery.

Ducks Unlimited, in partnership with the GRCA and the Ministry of Natural Resources, is creating a new 80-hectare wetland project at Luther, south west of the hamlet of Monticello. In addition to the Monticello Project, Ducks Unlimited is building a public interpretive component to this wetland, which will include a self-guiding walking trail.

Statistics show that many people will move into the Golden Triangle area of Ontario in the next 20 years. This will put Luther Marsh on the doorstep of this new growth, and create even greater demands on the area's resources. For this reason, the next phase of the Management Plan for Luther will need to accommodate the interests and increased demands of the public. The key to the future will lie in working with partners and friends of Luther to provide multiple opportunities while protecting the ecological integrity of this great storyteller and "jewel" of the Grand River headwaters.

Liz Yerex is a GRCA Resource Planner for the north area of the Grand River watershed. She has many years of involvement with Luther both as a GRCA staff person, and as a wildlife enthusiast with a deep personal affection for Luther Marsh.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Public Opinion and GRCA Parks

*by C. Ryan Auger, GRCA Staff,
Pinehurst Lake*

As we approach the end of another summer in the GRCA parks, it seems an appropriate time to take stock of public opinion. Our patron's suggestions and compliments have long served as a barometer for how we operate and plan for future projects and policies. As a community based organization, it is vital that the GRCA always considers public sentiment on all fronts, and this is especially true within the park system, where satisfied patrons ensure fiscal sustainability.

Working for the GRCA for six years has afforded me the opportunity to meet thousands of patrons and hear their thoughts about how the park system influences their lives. Nothing pleases me more than hearing stories and seeing pictures from a couple that have been returning to the same park for 35 years. Conversely, a simple comment like "what a beautiful area",

or “our family had a great weekend” makes my day. Over the past month or so, I concentrated on seeking patrons’ opinions on specific issues as they pertain both to the GRCA park system and Ontario’s growing ecotourism industry. I wanted to explore patrons’ views on what the parks offer as an affordable recreational medium, and what purpose the parks serve to the community at large. Questions included “why did you choose a GRCA park over other forms of recreation?”, “how do GRCA parks influence the community in which you live?”, and “what suggestions would you have for future development and growth within the GRCA park system?”

I discovered that many of the responses were favourable. One day-use patron at Pinehurst Lake said, “It’s a lot cheaper to come here with a family of four than it would be to go to Canada’s Wonderland, and there are no lines!” The GRCA spends a great deal of time and effort setting admission fees each year, and in most cases they are on par with, or less than, fees from other related facilities. Not all responses dealing with fees were as well informed. For example, one gentleman from Shade’s Mills suggested, “nature should be free for everyone to enjoy, and since our tax dollars support this place, there should be no admission fees at all.” While this point may be valid from an ideological point of view, its application becomes a bit more complicated. Some tax dollars, in the form of a small municipal levy, are allotted to the GRCA but these monies are directed towards flood control and watershed management costs; the GRCA parks do not receive any financial support from taxes, and this is what makes user fees so important. Without user fees, it would be impossible to maintain the parks or make necessary capital improvements for future patrons.

While camping at Rockwood Conservation Area in July, I had a long discussion with a family from Etobicoke, occupying a site near mine. I was not in uniform, and did not disclose my profession in an attempt to gain some objectivity with my questions. Throughout this entire process, perhaps the most satisfying responses came from this family. They spoke at great lengths about how nice it was that there were still some “green” areas that could be enjoyed in southwestern Ontario. The natural beauty of a park such as Rockwood had allowed this family to relax without concern for traffic, careers, or any of the trappings of a busy schedule. The need for people to escape from the pace of city life was exemplified in their answers, and their endearment for Rockwood was evident. The Conservation Authorities Act is the legislation that will ensure this family, and other nature lovers in the future will have “green” places to go. It is the acting legislation that is applied to all GRCA Conservation Areas, and it contains provisions that protect the native flora and fauna, soil, water, and wildlife in the parks. The Act is strictly enforced by area staff, and this ensures the natural integrity and beauty of the parks are not destroyed by irresponsible use. In the same vein, efforts, including the natural regeneration program in the GRCA’s camping parks, prevent problems



associated with overuse.

The introduction of reservation fees seemed to be a bit of a sore spot with some patrons. Some patrons felt it was an unnecessary fee and should be done away with. The reservation system in GRCA parks serves two purposes. First, it ensures a specific campsite can be “tailor made” to fit the needs of a prospective camper before they arrive at the park. All of the GRCA parks that offer camping have a wide variety of sites to choose from. A site-specific reservation guarantees not only a campsite is made available, but also a campsite that suits the tastes of each patron (i.e., wooded areas, close to beach, etc) can be arranged. Second, the reservation system is an effective way to eliminate long lines associated with processing campers’ information once they arrive at the park.

Although reservation fees may seem like an unnecessary cost, they do support the operation of a system that allows campers to obtain sites without delay or confusion. On-line reservations will also be made available in the near future for all GRCA camping parks.

Safety is an issue that permeated many of the discussions I had with patrons. A young couple camping at Pinehurst mentioned that they feel safer at GRCA parks than some of the private campgrounds in the province. They suggested some campgrounds “just take our money and throw us in a field somewhere with a bunch of partiers.” The GRCA strives to eliminate the “out of control party” motif from its parks. All patrons have a much more enjoyable experience in GRCA parks when not subjected to rowdy behaviour by other patrons, and the park system has a low tolerance for these types of disturbances. Well-trained park security staffs, along with the designation of many supervisors as

• See page 4

GRCA PARKS

from page three

agents under the Provincial Offences Act, allow GRCA parks to maintain a reputation of being family oriented, safe, and enjoyable for all patrons. Family-based leisure is reinforced in many GRCA parks with the operation of Visitor Services programs. These programs provide campers and their children the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities including crafts, colouring contests, bingo and movie nights. Many of the favourable comments I heard this year were directed towards these programs and the always-enthusiastic directors who run them.

While pruning a portion of the Paris to Cambridge Rail Trail in early August, I met a charismatic elderly gentleman, who halted his stroll for a couple of moments to speak with me. He was a local man from Paris, and wanted to take the opportunity to tell me how much the trail meant to him. He heralded the natural beauty of the Grand River and thanked me, as a representative of the GRCA, for constructing the trail and maintaining it so he could enjoy his daily walk with such a nice view. As he carried on his way and I returned to the task at hand, I remember feeling glad that I had listened to his opinion.

How Safe is Your Dug Well?

By Carl Catarino, City of Hamilton and Region of Hamilton Wentworth Health Services Division.

A safe supply of drinking water is a basic human need. In rural areas where a municipal water supply is not available, a variety of well types are used to reach this hidden natural resource. The well type used is often dictated by the geological formations in which the aquifer is located.

Four common types of wells still in



If your dug well does not meet minimum standards, it should be upgraded to improve the safety of your water supply.

use today are drilled, bored, dug and driven wells. Each type of well has advantages and limitations. Generally deeper drilled wells are less susceptible to bacteriological contamination. However, this type of well may access aquifers with poorer water quality such as “hard water” or water with elevated mineral content such as naturally occurring calcium, salt or sulphur. On the other hand, shallow dug/bored wells may access “softer water” with fewer mineral problems. Unfortunately, shallow dug/bored wells are generally more susceptible to bacteriological contamination. Driven wells, sometimes referred to as well points, are limited to sandy areas with shallow water tables. This article will focus on dug/bored wells.

The term “dug well” is commonly used to describe both a dug well and a bored well. Dug wells are dug by hand or by a mechanical shovel to various widths and depths. These wells are limited to areas where the soils can be easily dug and where the water bearing aquifer is close to the surface. Typically these wells are dug

to depths of less than 15 m (50 feet). Well walls are lined with a variety of casing materials including fieldstones, timber, brick or corrugated steel. This type of shallow well tends to be an older well and is extremely susceptible to water shortages during dry periods and contamination from small animals and microorganisms.

Bored wells are dug or bored with augers. This method allows penetration into soil of up to 30m (100 feet) though most bored wells are approximately 15m (50 feet) deep. Bored wells are provided with a liner, typically, a series of 0.9 m (3 feet) diameter precast-concrete rings stacked one upon another until the final ring rises at least 0.4 m (16 inches) above ground. To prevent surface water infiltration, ring joints located to a depth of 6m (20 feet) are made water tight and the excavation around well (annular space) is filled with a tight fitting, impervious material such as cement grout, concrete, or bentonite clay. The top of the casing is covered with a solid concrete lid.

As a bored well casing is generally constructed deeper and sounder, this type of well can be expected to provide better protection against bacteriological contamination as compared to a dug well. None the less, all dug or bored wells remain susceptible to the entrance of small animals and bacteria laden surface water if they are not properly protected and maintained.

Proper protection and maintenance of a dug/bored well includes:

- Diverting surface water runoff away from the well head area. Surface water can easily pick up microorganisms from a variety of sources such as ponding water, flower beds, animal pens, eaves trough drainage, malfunctioning septic systems, etc. Should surface water find a direct route into a well, the result will be a contaminated drinking water supply.
- Ensuring that the well casing is

sound. Any cracks, joints, electrical or plumbing conduits must be sealed. The well casing should extend at least 0.4m (16 inches) above the surface of the ground to prevent the entry of bacteria laden surface water. A solid water tight cap must be fitted over the well casing.

- Testing the well on a regular basis establishes its stability and reliability as a source of safe water.

Additional information on well maintenance is available from a number of sources including your local Health Department, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs or a local water well contractor licensed by the Ministry of the Environment.

Private well water supplies can be tested through the use of test bottles provided by the Ministry of Health. These sample bottles can be obtained by contacting your local Health Department. Should the water sample results indicate a safe supply then continue with routine sampling of 3 to 4 times per year. Where test results indicate an unsafe supply, the water must be considered unfit for human consumption unless treated first. Information on how to treat bacteriologically contaminated water and how to disinfect a well can be obtained from your local Health Department.

Grand Strategy Progress

Decisions for safeguarding our watershed's health are becoming increasingly difficult in the face of rapid growth pressures. What are the consequences of our water and land-use decisions today? Do we need to make better management decisions? How are the various working groups of The Grand Strategy tackling these questions? What tools are being developed to help? On October 5, 2000 from 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., the GRCA is hosting a forum at which Grand Strategy working groups will address three key questions:

- What research, innovations and tools have been developed that can help municipalities, agencies and other partners to make better water management and land use decisions in the Grand River watershed?
- What key accomplishments, achievements and works in progress have been completed or are underway to improve watershed health, heritage appreciation and eco and cultural tourism?
- What pressing issues and trends still need to be addressed?

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Carol Bystriansky at (519) 621-2763 ext. 220, or e-mail cbystriansky@grandriver.on.ca

Relay 2000

From August 14th to 19th, this year, Grand River watershed communities welcomed the Trans Canada Trail Relay 2000 to mark the official inauguration of the Trans Canada Trail. This historic event was celebrated in style and with Canadian pride, through a series of highly successful and well-attended community events throughout the watershed. Local water carriers joined over 5,000 Canadians

who carried water drawn from the Pacific, Arctic and Atlantic Oceans along the 16,100 km route while cycling, hiking, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling or horseback riding. Relay 2000 culminated on September 9th, 2000, in the National Capital Region.

While the building of the Trans Canada Trail will continue over the next five years to connect all of the sections across Canada, most of the system through the Grand River watershed is complete, except for a section in the southern part of the watershed between Caledonia and Dunnville.

International Ploughing Match

A big green gathering of environmental ideas will be a strong feature of this year's International Ploughing Match from September 19th to 23rd in Wellington County, just south of Elora.

At the *Partners in Conservation Education* exhibit, 29 conservation groups will gather under one huge tent to sell the *Caring for Your Future* theme to the tens of thousands of expected visitors. The goal is to

• See page 6



Mary Welsh, founder of the Brant Waterways Foundation, and Paul Emerson, Past Foundation President and CAO of the GRCA, carry the Trans Canada Trail Relay 2000 water beside the Grand River into Brantford.

RELAY 2000

from page five

promote environmental stewardship, particularly focussing on the unique and vital role played by agriculture. The exhibit includes wildlife, wetland, forestry, and soil and water conservation interests. At the GRCA's interactive display, visitors can "walk through a watershed" and see miniature wetlands, cities and rural areas, highlighting the importance of watersheds and the recreational activities stemming from its rivers.

On-site displays will show how trees can be used for windbreaks and erosion control, and also provide an educational trail walk through the woods.

Other traditional attractions at the 900-acre site include farming skills contests, state of the art farming equipment, products and services, food, fashions, crafts and entertainment for the whole family.

For more information contact Mitch Wilson, at (519) 826-4936 or email: mitch.wilson@mnr.gov.on.ca

Conservation Symposium

The seventh annual A.D. Latornell Conservation Symposium is being held on October 23-25, 2000 at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, near Barrie. Each year, the theme is topical to those interested in a wide range of conservation issues with speakers presenting informative and insightful papers. The conference continues to grow with over 400 delegates attending last year. Delegates came from diverse backgrounds including conservation authorities, federal and provincial agencies, municipalities, private business and community groups and a group of university students.

The conference promises to be even better this year. With growth in Ontario advancing at a rapid pace, the organizers will explore issues of growth and its impact on our natural resources.

The theme is *Growth and Conservation: Chaos or Compatibility?* Both the federal Commissioner for the Environment and Sustainable Development (Richard Smith), and the Ontario Commissioner of the Environment (Gordon Miller) are keynote speakers. Other speakers will explore urban and rural growth issues, municipal amalgamation and restructuring, concerns about the changing landscapes, and the ever-increasing demands we place on our water and land resources. Concurrent sessions will deal with surface and groundwater issues, aquatic habitat manipulation, management approaches, innovative tools and new technologies. Parks managers will enjoy sessions on how to attract more visitors and new internet and marketing technologies.

For information, contact Conservation Ontario at (905) 895-0716 or email: conserve@idirect.com or Centre for Land and Water Stewardship, (519) 824-4120 ext. 8329, or email: claws@uoguelph.ca

Heritage Planning Course

The University of Waterloo is again offering a Heritage Planning Course, which includes a set of seminars for students, professionals and others involved or interested in heritage planning. The seminars run on 10 consecutive Tuesdays, from September 26 to November 21, from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The course can be taken for university credit. Regular university fees apply to registered students, and fees for practicing planners and interested citizens are \$200 for the seminar series, and \$300 if the participant wished to fulfil the requirements for a Certificate in Heritage Planning. The program is offered by the Heritage Resources Centre in association with the School of Planning, University of Waterloo, and Priority Grow, Glen Morris. The organizers are Gordon Nelson, Heritage Resources Centre and Stephen Lauer, Priority Grow. For more information, contact the Heritage Resources Centre, University of Waterloo. Phone: (519) 888-4567, ext. 3066, or email:

hrc@fes.uwaterloo.ca



NOW AVAILABLE

Reflections on the Grand

A new book, *Reflections on the Grand: A Collection of Poems*, by Leslie Gordon Fisher (1925–1995), has been published by the Ancient Mariners Canoe Club of Cambridge.

The book is dedicated to the author, a founding member of the Ancient Mariners Canoe Club, as well as an active participant in many community organizations. His poems espouse a love of family, community and nature, and describe a leisurely way of life that is all but lost in his fast growing hometown. Les is remembered warmly by fellow canoeists who enjoyed listening to his latest poems during riverbank lunch breaks.

The *Our Millennium Program* of Cambridge assisted with a \$1,000 grant towards publishing. Copies will be given to the Cambridge Archive, Cambridge Libraries and Senior Centres in Cambridge. Also helping with the project were Mabel Fisher, who provided permission and advice; David Colwell, poet and editor, who guided the process of self-publication; Jim Quantrell, the City Archivist who worked on the photographs; and Paul Paquette who provided the cover photograph.

Ancient Mariners also contributing include Ross Anderson, Mervyn Campbell, Ron Dahmer, Helen Kleinfeld-Pieper, Charlie Macdonald, Pat Mighton, and Mary Mitchell.

Conestogo Dreaming

by Leslie Gordon Fisher

A peekaboo sun brought a hot July day;
Conestogo rolled in its bed,
And the rain-swollen stream was a day-trippers dream
With a surface like soft molten lead.
A view from the bridge showed a wandering course,
A ribbon, deep-etched with invisible force;
Through Ontario's heartland it sped.

Long gone are the mills from each village and town
Though mill-race and deep ponds can be seen,
Once amazing in scope, those purveyors of hope,
Now an overgrown, tree-hidden scene.
Where the grinding of stones turned by great waterwheels
Made discordant song with their groaning and squeals
Showed how strong the river had been.

Now our flimsy canoes with their flexible hulls
And travel-marked fibreglass girth
Bounced over this stream through the pastoral scene
Proving every adventure its worth;
While the smooth-flowing crest hid some pillow-shaped rocks
And a flat-seeming face gave us up some quick shocks,
The riverbanks echoed with mirth.

Hortop Mill History

Ted Fountain has always been interested in the histories of Everton, Wellington and Waterloo Counties. While researching the history of Everton at the Wellington County Museum and Archives, Ted discovered articles written by schoolchildren and others in the Hortop Mill files. He decided to compile, edit and verify this information.

The fruits of his efforts are now collected in a document entitled *W. H. Hortop Mill: The Home of Lily White Flour*, which is available at the Wellington County Archive and at libraries in the Guelph area.



LOOK WHO'S TAKING ACTION

Susan Strachan Johnson, Rosalyn Insley and Gail Root

In 1998, artists Susan Strachan Johnson and Rosalyn Insley of Rockwood, were struck by the number of old barns in their area being demolished or falling down. They decided to paint some of them before these heritage features vanished forever from the landscape. With Guelph artist, Lillian Rosendal, they held a show later that year at Leylanders Tea Room in Elora. *The Vanishing Landmarks* show was so successful that they decided to

hold another, with Rockwood artist Gail Root, to focus on the stone churches of Eramosa.

The idea for the second show was born as Eramosa Township and Guelph Township were about to be amalgamated to form the new Guelph/Eramosa Township. To mark the occasion, local playwright Dale Hamilton had written and produced a community play called *All Over the Map*. The play took place on school busses, with the audience travelling with the cast along the boundary of the new Township. It told the story of a wedding, used as a metaphor for the blending of the two townships.

Susan Strachan Johnson was part of the design team for the play, and noticed many local churches along the route. Touched by the beauty of these buildings, she felt a show of paintings would be a fitting tribute. Over the course of a year, Susan, Ros and Gail

• See page 8



This attractive painting of St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, by Susan Strachan Johnson, is one of twelve works of art by produced three artists as a tribute to the beautiful old stone churches of Eramosa and Guelph Townships.

SUSAN, ROS & GAIL

from page seven

visited and painted 12 churches, focussing only on churches built of stone. In October, the paintings were brought together at Art in Guelph for the *Twelve Stone Churches of Old Eramosa* show. The paintings were also displayed at the Wellington County Museum for three months. The next show planned by these talented artists will be *Fall Fairs*, including works within the Grand River watershed.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In the early 1800s, when the first European settlers arrived, Luther Marsh was a forested swamp.
- Luther Marsh was named by an ardent Catholic surveyor who expressed his dislike of the bleak climate and harsh terrain by naming it after the detested leader of the Protestant Reformation.
- Forest clearing and peat harvesting reduced the ability of Luther Marsh to

absorb and hold water, and moderate year-round flows in the upper Grand River.

- Luther Reservoir was built in 1954, to hold spring runoff and supply water to the Grand River in dry seasons. Each summer, over 75% of the water in the upper Grand River is supplied by the Luther Reservoir.
- The Townsend Cairn was erected at Luther in 1992, as a tribute to one of the pioneer families of this area. The cairn is constructed from stones from the original farm and present holdings of Townsend descendents.

THE GRAND STRATEGY CALENDAR

International Plowing Match, September 19 to 23, 2000, Wellington County, just south of Elora. For more information contact Deb Dalziel at (519) 843-5140, or email: chamber@ferguselora.com

Nature Conservancy of Canada conservation workday, Saturday, September 23, 2000, Volunteers needed for invasive plant removal at the Savannah Links Golf Course, Cambridge. Contact Lisa McLaughlin for more details. Phone: (519) 826-0068. Email: lisam@natureconservancy.ca

The Lung Association Hike for Life, Sunday, October 1, 2000, Laurel Creek Conservation Area. Registration 11 am. Hike at 1 pm. Activities include celebrity Tshirt auction, family fun, games and Oktoberfest festivities. Phone (519) 886-8100 for more information.

Grand Strategy Progress Report Meeting, October 5, 2000, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For information call Carol Bystriansky, (519) 621-2763, ext. 220, or email cbystriansky@grandriver.on.ca

Cambridge Trails Guided Hikes, Grand Trunk Trail Sunday, October 15, 2000. Meet at Mill Race Park (Water Street N at Parkhill Road, Galt) at 12.30 p.m., for the first bus. Bus shuttle leave every half hour until 2 p.m. For more information phone (519) 740-4681, ext. 4229.

7th Annual Latornell Symposium, October 22-25 at the Nottawasaga Inn, Alliston. Contact Conservation Ontario at (905) 895-0716. Email: conserve@idirect.ca

Canadian Chestnut Council, 13th Annual Meeting, Saturday, November 4, 2000, 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the OMAFRA building, Hwy 59, about half a kilometre north of Woodstock. Guest speaker is Dr. Sandra Anagnostakis, of the Connecticut Experimental Station, New Haven, CT. Any one interested in overcoming the blight and reintroducing the native American Chestnut to our forests is welcome. For more information contact Dr. Colin McKeen, (519) 941-9513.

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is produced as a communications tool by the Grand River Conservation Authority on behalf of the partners in *The Grand Strategy*.

This newsletter can be seen (without photographs) on the Internet at www.grandriver.on.ca/gractndx.html

For information on *The Grand Strategy*

Contact Barbara Veale, GRCA, 400 Clyde Road, Box 729, Cambridge ON N1R 5W6.
Phone: (519) 621-2761.
Fax: (519) 621-4844
Email: bveale@grandriver.on.ca
Website: <http://www.grandriver.on.ca>

For newsletter submissions

Contact the Editor, Liz Leedham, c/o Barbara Veale at the above address. Newsletter submissions must be made by the 15th of the month prior to publication, and may be subject to editorial change. Tax deductible donations and sponsorships toward the cost of producing this newsletter are always welcome. Please contact Barbara Veale at (519) 621-2761, ext. 274, for more information.

Publications Mail

Agreement #1448471