

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

...helping to conserve
our natural & cultural heritage.



September



January



May



June



June

2007
Annual Report



October

We Gratefully Acknowledge Donors in 2007

Diamond \$1000+

Badder Funeral Homes - Thamesville & Bothwell
Canada Summer Jobs - Human Resources and Skills Development
Cobban, A. - Harrow
McKinlay Funeral Home - Chatham
Ontario Trillium Foundation - Thames Valley
Ontario West Insurance Brokers, Bill Boland - London
T.D. Friends of the Environment - Chatham
The Evergreen Foundation

Platinum \$500- \$1,000
Santarelli Engineering Services - London

Gold \$250 - \$500
Klein, J. & D. - Merlin

Silver \$100 - 250
AGO Industries Inc. - London
BMO Nesbitt Burns - London
Carey, R. - Mt. Brydges
Cove Marina - Tilbury
Custom Orthotics - Foot Sensations - London
Digital Catering Ltd. - London
Erick's Horticultural Services Ltd. - Komoka
Flagstone Financial Group - Strathroy
Hatherell Carey Chartered Accountants - London
J. Nakagawa Photographics - London
Jenner, M. & A. - Chatham
Joe Reily Family - Mt. Brydges
John Horn Law Office - London
Kent and Essex Mutual Insurance Company - Chatham
Mark Dickerson Dentistry - Wallaceburg
Masonville Dental Centre - London
Masterstage Manufacturing Inc. - London
McKenzie Lake Law Firm - London
Mortgage Intelligence - London
O'Neill, D. & K. - Chatham
Payne's Grey Creative - London
Rapid Binding and Laminating Inc. - London
Royal Lepage Triland Realty - London
Scotiabank - London
Shillington and Associates - London
Skytrax - Garry Hess - London
Snow, D. - London
Stan Lidster - Shedden
Stan's Total Tire Sales and Service Inc. - Fingal
Vanboxmeer and Stranges Engineering Ltd. - London
Westmount Optometrists - London



President's Message

Because of the dedication of volunteers and hundreds of generous donors, 2007 has seen another year of cooperation and collaboration for the fragile ecosystems of the Lower Thames Valley. Last year, the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation was instrumental in raising over \$112 thousand. Since its incorporation in 1995, the Foundation has raised over \$538,902 for natural and cultural heritage conservation programs in the Lower Thames Valley region. All contributions are used for the direct benefit of families living in the area defined by the jurisdiction of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority.



Although received in 2006, the \$75,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant to restore three heritage log cabins at the Longwoods Road Conservation Area has been reflected in our 2007 financial statements and celebrated in this report. Much of the work to "Save the Cabins", was conducted in 2007 and we especially thank all the partners in this project: (alphabetically) Acres Masonry - Rick Acres, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario - John Rutledge, Brian King, City of London, Continental Building Movers Ltd. - Murray Abra, Dawn Willoughby, Delaware Saw Mill, Family Donors of the Cabins - The Georges (Oneida of the Thames First Nation), The Dolsons (Muncie-Delaware First Nation), The Miskokomons (Chippewas of the Thames First Nations), Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Directors and Staff, Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation Directors and Members, Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc, Ontario Trillium Foundation - Thames Valley, Rob McKinlay, Santarelli Engineering Services, Sherri Flegel and the Upper Thames Military Re-enactment Society.

Mrs. Cobban, formerly of Mount Brydges donated money for projects at the Longwoods Road and Sharon Creek Conservation Areas. The McKinlay Funeral Home in Chatham, the John C. Badder Funeral Home in Thamesville, the Badder & Robinson Funeral Home in Bothwell, along with private donors, funded 403 new trees in six memorial forests across our watershed. A partnership continued with the Tilbury and District Horticultural Society to reforest parkland through our memorial forest program. Over 100 businesses and individuals support our annual Charity Golf Scramble in September to raise funds for Foundation projects. Local families adopted nature trails at Longwoods Road through our Interpretive Trail Sponsorship Program. Grants from the Canada Summer Jobs - Human Resources and Skills Development provided opportunities for summer students to work on conservation and environmental projects. To assist in reforestation efforts in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, T.D. Friends of the Environment Foundation and The Evergreen Foundation made contributions towards tree planting projects. The Foundation also commends the efforts of the Friends of Sharon Creek for their preservation of the Sharon Creek Conservation Area and our volunteers for the countless hours of service they have donated over the past year.

As we conclude 2007 and look forward to the challenges and opportunities of 2008, I am indebted to everyone who has chosen to support our mission and vision with their time, their effort and their generous contributions. On behalf of the Foundation's Board of Directors let me express our deepest gratitude to our volunteers, the employees of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and our many partners in conservation. It is your commitment and outstanding effort that will be the heritage for the generations of the future.

Peter Snow - President
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

2007 Volunteer Directors & Officers

Peter Snow - President
Al McGregor - Vice-president
Ken Brooks - Secretary/Treasurer
Ralph Brodie
Bill Derbyshire
Rick Gray
John Kavelaars
Brian King
John Lawrence
Bill Parks
Anne Smith
Glenn Stott
Sandy Wilson
Jonathan Wolf
Bonnie Carey - Administrative Assistant

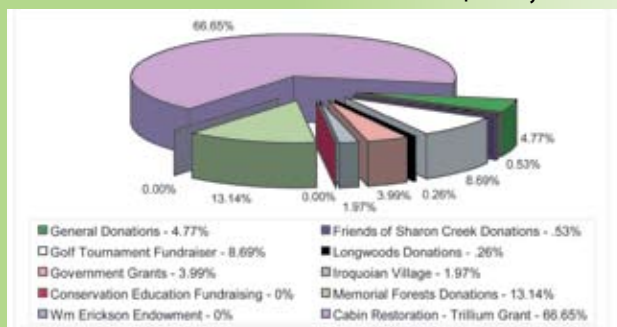


About the Foundation

The Conservation Foundation works with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA), helping to raise funds to encourage wise management of our renewable natural resources. The Foundation was created in 1995 to cultivate and enhance all aspects of conservation, to provide present and future generations with a safe and healthy environment, which includes our natural and cultural heritage resources. The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation is an independent non-profit, registered charity. Tax receipts are issued for all donations over \$10.00. Registered Charitable Number 898198171 RR0001

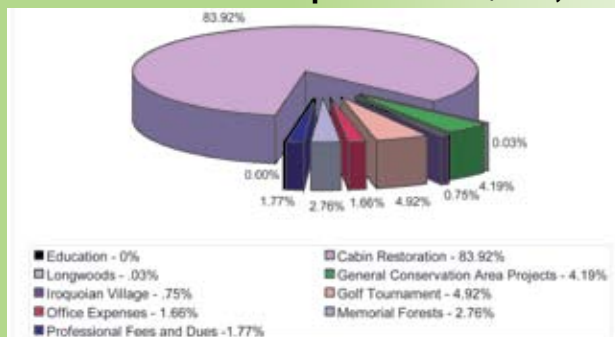
2007 Projects Supported

2007 Foundation Revenues \$112,529



*The Foundation facilitated the generation of **\$112,529** in 2007. The excess of revenue over expenses for 2007 was \$5,260. Available upon request from the Foundation are the 2007 Financial Statements, which outline the revenues and expenditures in detail. The Foundation Secretary/Treasurer position was **Ken Brooks** in 2007. He is recognized for his financial expertise with the budget.*

2007 Foundation Expenditures \$107,269



Through donations from local Funeral Homes and private individuals, the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation continues to help reforest the lower Thames River watershed and region through its "growing" Memorial Forest Program.



The \$75,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation received in late 2006 for log cabin restoration is reflected in the 2007 financial statements.

Bronze up to \$100

Bardyla, W. & L. - Chatham	Hughes, E. - Chatham
Barnes, R. - Blenheim	Jackson, C. & B. - Chatham
Bennett, S. - London	Jackson, W. - Chatham
Bobo, S. - Canfield	Johnson, T. - London
Bower, G. - Chatham	Kraml, B. - London
Broadbent, D. & B. - Chatham	Kuni, T. & A. - Chatham
Brooks, J. - London	Langley, T. - London
Brooks, K. - London	Lawrence, J. - Komoka
Brooks, K. - London	Leonard, L. - London
Campbell, J. & S. - Chatham	Little, D. & C. - Glencoe
Carey, B. & R. - Mt. Brydges	Long, D. - London
Chandler, K. & M. - Chatham	Lyons, J. - Chatham
Chapleau, G. & D. - Tilbury	Mardling, C. - Ridgeway
Clarke, R. & K. - Blenheim	Masse, T. - Windsor
Cooper, D. - London	McCulloch, J. - St. Thomas
Curney, W. - London	McGhee, A. - London
Davies, M. - Pickering	McLeod, N. - Chatham
Dawdy, C. - London	Melkert, F. - London
Dawson, D. - Blenheim	Mohr, J. - Chatham
De Busschere, S. - Bothwell	Moran, M. - Tilbury
Dickerson, M. - Wallaceburg	Morden, B. - London
Dodman, P. - Chatham	Myers, A.M. - Chatham
Donais, B. & D. - Chatham	Nakagawa, J. - London
Ducharme, C. & M. - Hanover	Parr, S. & E. - Chatham
Dunlop, D. & A. - Dover Centre	Patrick, B. & C. - Dresden
Ellis, T. & B. - Chatham	Payne, D. - London
Evans, R. - London	Pennesi, P. & Davidson, B.J. - Sarnia
Flegel, C. - Mt. Brydges	Perkins, H. - Peterborough
Fleury, P. & M. - Tilbury	Quenneville, P.
Forsyth, J. - Blenheim	Riley, W. - Chatham
Fraser, D. & S. - Tilbury	Rowlands, C. - London
Gagner, H. - Chatham	Schofield, W. & S. - London
Gauvreau, B. - London	Sewell, R. & D. - Chatham
Genereaux, M. - London	Shadd, T. & S. - Merlin
Goldstein, S. - Kitchener	Shaw, C. & L. - Florence
Hardwick, T. - Dorchester	Shaw, W. & S. - London
Hayter, D. - Thedford	Smith, R. & A. - London
Henry, D. & Henry, D.L. - Wallaceburg	Somers, R. M. - Chatham
Henry, S. & B. - Wallaceburg	Sterling, C. - Chatham
Hodgins, K. & N. - Mt. Brydges	Stott, B. - London
Hofmann, H. - London	Stott, G. - Arkona
Howard, J. - Chatham	Stuart, J. - London
	The Schinkel's Ball Team - Chatham
	Toll, J. - Belle River
	Towsley, V. - Blenheim
	Trollope, A.J. - Chatham
	Valdivieso, J. - Toronto
	Verbridge, M. - Wayzata
	Wilson, S. - Mt. Brydges



Supporting the
Lower Thames Valley
Conservation Authority and
Community Conservation
Partners...

Projects and Services
"Assisted" Through Our
Foundation and its Generous
Donors in 2007

- Heritage log cabin restoration with funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and LTVC Foundation
- Support for fund-raising resource data base license
- Planting of 403 trees in six memorial forests in the lower Thames River watershed and region and assisting with memorial forest dedication services
- Summer student employment grant applications for LTVCA and its conservation areas
- Applications for reforestation grants



Supporting Reforestation



MEMORIAL FOREST PROGRAM

memories live on

A focus of the Foundation over the years has been its memorial forest program with 4,900 memorial trees planted. In 2007, \$12,090 in donations was received for trees, dedicated to loved ones, in six Foundation memorial forests. The

value of this memorial forest program has been reinforced, with less than two percent tree cover coupled with the demise of ash trees from the Emerald Ash Borer, in the lower Thames watershed. This program also helps support conservation lands and education programs of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority. Recognized for their ongoing support of the memorial forest program are the **McKinlay Funeral Homes of Chatham, John C. Badder and Badder & Robinson Funeral Homes** of Thamesville and Bothwell, and the **Tilbury and District Horticultural Society**. Friends and families dedicate trees to loved ones who have passed away by contacting the Foundation, requesting a tree donation card and making a \$30 donation for each tree. Next of kin receive a certificate, and an invitation to an annual memorial forest service.

"Friends" Helping Out

The Foundation is appreciative of the hard work that is being done by local volunteer groups to help reforest our watershed and region. Of special mention are the **Friends of Sharon Creek** in Delaware, and the **Tilbury and District Horticultural Society**. The partnerships that have developed are valued and of benefit to local communities.

Some of the memorial forests are located in conservation areas. The Sharon Creek Memorial Forest is located in the Sharon Creek Conservation Area near Delaware. A volunteer group named the "Friends of Sharon Creek" support this conservation area by paying the annual taxes, and improving facilities. The Foundation offers its support to a variety of their projects such as accessing special funding for conservation activities.



Memorial Tree Dedications



On September 9, the tenth annual dedication service was held at the **McKinlay Woodlands**, located at the C.M. Wilson Conservation Area, south of Chatham. Over 1,500 friends and family members attended. Foundation Director **Peter Snow** offered greetings at the service. Over 263 memorial trees were dedicated in 2007 bringing the total of memorial trees now growing at McKinlay Woodlands to 2,941.



On September 23rd the seventh annual dedication service at the **Badder & Robinson Memorial Forest** near Bothwell, was held at the Mosa Forest. Over 250 people attended. Foundation Director **Glenn Stott** brought greetings to the service. 129 trees were dedicated in 2007 bringing the total of memorial trees now growing in memory of loved ones at Badder & Robinson Memorial Forest to over 1,036.



On September 30, the fourth annual dedication service was held at the **Tilbury Northside Memorial Forest**, located at the Tilbury Northside Park. Many friends and relatives attended. Ten trees were dedicated in memory of loved ones in 2007 bringing the total of memorial trees now growing in memory of loved ones at this memorial forest to 46.

Supporting the
Lower Thames valley
Conservation Authority and
Community Conservation
Partners...

Projects and Services
"Assisted" Through Our
Foundation and Its Generous
Donors in 2007

- Management of environmental trusts and the William Erickson Student Bursary
- Sponsorship of special public events - Owl Hike and Taste of Fall at Longwoods Road Conservation Area
- Maintenance of Longwoods Road Conservation Area nature trails through the Interpretive Trail Signage Sponsorship Program
- Organizing and hosting the Annual Lower Thames Charity Golf Scramble Fund-raiser
- Promotion of environmental stewardship across the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority watershed and region

Memorial Forest Sites

McKinlay Woodlands... A Living Memorial

C.M. Wilson Conservation Area,
Chatham-Kent, On
(supported by
McKinlay Funeral Home)

Big Bend Memorial Forest

Big Bend Conservation Area
Wardsville, On

Comber District Historical Museum Memorial Forest

Comber, On

Sharon Creek Memorial Forest

Sharon Creek Conservation Area,
Delaware, On

Badder & Robinson Memorial Forest

Bothwell, On
(supported by John C. Badder and
Badder & Robinson Funeral Homes)

Rowsom's Tilbury West Memorial Forest

Rowsom's Tilbury West
Conservation Area
Tilbury, On

Tilbury Northside Memorial Forest

Tilbury Northside Park
Tilbury, On
(supported by the Tilbury and District
Horticultural Society)



Partners with "friends"

The Foundation continued its productive working relationship with a Delaware volunteer group call the "**Friends of Sharon Creek**" (**FOSC**). Conservation projects take on a grassroots approach and welcome community involvement. The work that this group does is invaluable, and the Foundation applauds its efforts.



Sharon Creek Trust Fund

Under the umbrella of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation, money is growing in a separate "trust" fund for Sharon Creek Conservation Area. The goal of this "fund" is to eventually have enough money to pay the annual maintenance costs and property taxes so that future generations are guaranteed the preservation of this beautiful conservation area. The **FOSC** make annual donations to this trust fund from their fund-raising projects. At year-end, \$17,669 was growing "in trust" for Sharon Creek Conservation Area.



Supporting Conservation

Over the past year, the Foundation invited service clubs, local businesses, charitable foundations and private citizens to become "partners in conservation" to support and improve conservation lands and facilities of the LTVCA. This is an opportunity for sponsors to have their name in publications and on signs, receive media attention, and to receive a tax receipt, all in recognition of their support. The Foundation applies for Government grants and corporate sponsorship on behalf of the Conservation Authority. This special funding hires summer students and helps to purchase equipment not covered through the LTVCA's budget, but needed to operate programs in the conservation areas. A trail sponsorship program at Longwoods Road Conservation Area raises money for the upkeep of the wheelchair accessible nature trails.

In 2007, the Foundation received a **\$2,000 donation from Mrs. Cobban** to be split between the Sharon Creek and Longwoods Road Conservation Areas. Mrs. Cobban wishes her donation to be used for capital development and / or summer student employment. The Foundation recognizes Mrs. Cobban's ongoing generosity and support of these local conservation lands and will ensure that her donation is used appropriately.

Government Grants

The Foundation recognizes the financial support they received for conservation projects, from private individuals, government programs and other charitable foundation grants.

As a result of the Foundation's application to the **Federal Government's Canada Summer Jobs Program**, two summer students were hired with \$4,493 of special funding. One position was for an Assistant Water Resources Technician and the other student worked as an Administrative Assistant to help the Conservation Authority staff in Chatham.



One student worked at the Conservation Authority's Administration Office in Chatham as an Administrative Assistant helping to reorganize the filing system and assist the Accounting Clerk for eight weeks.

Nature Trail Sponsorship



This marsh boardwalk spans a provincially significant wetland at Longwoods Road.

Families and groups sponsor the 6.5 km of nature trails at Longwoods Road Conservation Area. Two trails are wheelchair accessible. Donations are used to provide stone chips, repair boardwalks and stairs, and clear and prune trails. Sponsors are recognized on trail signs and receive tax receipts.

Our appreciation is extended to: the **Schofield Family - London** and the **Flegel Family - Mount Brydges** for their continued support in 2007.

Supporting Education

The Conservation and Ska-Nah-Doht Iroquoian Studies education programs at Longwoods Road Conservation Area, are unique to our watershed and benefit from "partners in conservation" to be preserved for all to enjoy. Annually, over 7,000 students participate in these programs. Donations from service clubs, the golf scramble, foundations, corporations, and individuals, help maintain trails, facilities, and programs at Longwoods.



for restoration of 3 heritage log cabins at Longwoods. Directors **Peter Snow, Anne Smith, Glenn Stott and John Lawrence** are congratulated on their efforts. To support the project, Directors also secured a donation of heritage timbers valued at \$20,000 and provided funds and volunteer labour valued at more than \$20,000. The project included the raising, repositioning, pouring full basements, replacing the decaying bottom logs and re-chinking each cabin. By the end of 2006, the restoration was well underway with the cabins lifted and moved, and 3 basements poured.

During 2007 the remaining work on the "Save the Cabins" project was completed with the cabins repositioned over the new basements, and the bottom logs replaced on each cabin. The final touches included re-chinking each cabin. Pictures of the work done on the cabins in 2007 are on the front cover of this report.

In 2006, a collaboration with the Upper Thames Military Re-enactment Society and our Foundation resulted in the successful application for \$75,000 from the **Ontario Trillium Foundation**



All project partners were invited to a recognition ceremony held on October 14 to celebrate the great achievement!

Education Programs of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority

Conservation Education

- **Conservation Area Field Trips**
Longwoods Road
Sharon Creek
C.M. Wilson
- **Classroom Outreach Programs**



Ska-Nah-Doht Iroquoian Village and Museum

- **Native Studies Programs**
Longwoods Road Conservation Area



Ska-Nah-Doht Iroquoian Village and Museum is located in Longwoods Road Conservation Area. Curriculum based native studies programs attract thousands of students, teachers and chaperones annually. In the summer months, tourists from around the world explore the longhouses inside the palisade.

Charity Golf Scramble

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's environmental and cultural heritage projects were assisted with nearly \$5,700 raised at the 5th annual Charity Golf Scramble on September 15. Twenty-six one-hole sponsors, and 48 golfers enjoyed the Foundation's golf event, supported by more than 46 prize and silent auction donors. The Golf Committee is recognized for their hard work: **Dawn and Peter Snow, Al McGregor, Anne and Rick Smith, Sandy Wilson, Glenn Stott, John Lawrence, Keri Wilson, Tim Langley and Joe Menard.** Special thanks to the HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSOR - Bill Boland, Ontario West Insurance Brokers, London.

Thank You "One-hole Sponsors"

AGO Industries Inc. - London	Masterstage Manufacturing Inc. - London
Benoit, Van Raay, Spisani, Fuerth and Quaglia - Chatham	McKenzie Lake - London
BMO Nesbitt Burns - Toni Liokossis - London	Mortgage Intelligence - Margo Christodoulou - London
Cove Marina - Tilbury	Payne's Grey Creative - London
Custom Orthotics - Foot Sensation - Molly Murphy - London	Rapid Binding and Laminating Inc. - London
Digital Catering Ltd. - London	Royal LePage Triland Realty - London
Erick's Horticultural Service - Komoka	Santarelli Engineering Services - London
Flagstone Financial Group - Strathroy	Scotiabank - London
Hatherell Carey LLP Chartered Accountants - London	Shillington and Associates - London
In Memory of Joe Reilly - Mount Brydges	Skytrax - Garry Hess - London
J. Nakagawa Photography - London	Stan Lidster - Shedden
John Horn Law Office - London	Stan's Total Tire Service - Fingal
Kent & Essex Mutual Insurance Company - Chatham	Vanboxmeer and Stranges Engineering Ltd. - London
Mark Dickerson Dentistry - Wallaceburg	Westmount / Glencoe Optometrists - London
Masonville Dental Centre - Dr. John Ley - London	



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Website: www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca



Donations to the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation for education and conservation projects are generously recognized and wisely used for activities in the local area.
Tax receipts are available.