

## Every Child: An Outdoor Education? Energy and Conservation Awareness?

Grand River  
Conservation Authority

!imagine that!

opening January 13, 2007  
RIM Gallery

There are many reasons to live and work in Waterloo Region. We believe one of those reasons should be that, here, children are given unprecedented opportunities. We and our partners – the Grand River Conservation Authority and the Waterloo Regional Children's Museum, to mention two – believe that every child should have an outdoor education and first-hand opportunities to adopt conservation and energy-awareness values. We have a long way to go to make this possible, but we are started – the key to reaching any goal!

We've also become the headquarters of Zerofootprint Waterloo Region [www.zerofootprint.net](http://www.zerofootprint.net), and the two programs mentioned below are the beginnings of our efforts to work with other organizations to make this a model community. Like the GRCA and the Children's Museum, **rare** wants to create a shift in the way students think about our environment and their role in saving it.

### Two of our early partnership efforts are:

**Zerofootprinted by rare!** Little green stickers with the Zerofootprint logo are beginning to appear in the community as the first 400 children have attended the Children's Museum's pilot program *Kids Inspiring Change*, an Energy Awareness and Conservation Program. This program is sponsored in part by Zerofootprint and was launched by the Minister of Energy Dwight Duncan. This is the first of a three-year program that meets every expectation of the Ontario Curriculum for the Grade One Energy and Control Strand! Developed at the Children's Museum this program was written by teachers for teachers and includes a pre-lesson plan, hands-on activities at the Children's Museum including interaction with the Zerofootprint Calculator which lets kids and their families see the effect of their consumption habits and, more importantly, of the changes they can make to reduce this footprint. The program finishes with a post-lesson plan plus an energy backpack for students to take home to share with their families. We congratulate the Children's Museum

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## Southwood Students Snow Shoe the Trails at **rare**

Led by Southwood Secondary teacher Jason Bracey, close to 60 Southwood Secondary School students enjoyed snow shoeing parts of the **rare** property over the course of February 28 and March 1. The hike was approximately 5.5 km and the weather conditions varied greatly over the two days from sunny and warm weather to blizzard-like conditions. During the hike students learned about parts of the **rare** property, had an introduction to tree identification, interpreted animal tracks and got a great work out. For many students this was their first time on snow shoes. Highlights of the trip were seeing a flock of 14 wild turkeys, 12 deer along Cruickston Creek, a variety of birds and even a vole that popped up beside one group from beneath the snow and darted into the forest. ■



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## Our Newest International Ambassador – David Buckland



If you tuned into ProvinceWide on CKCO TV on Sunday, March 18, you would have seen Daiene Vernile in conversation with UK artist, David Buckland of Cape Farewell. As *rare*'s newest Ambassador, David was here walking the *rare* lands, meeting with volunteers and donors, and participating in a public showing of his film, *Art from a Changing Arctic*.

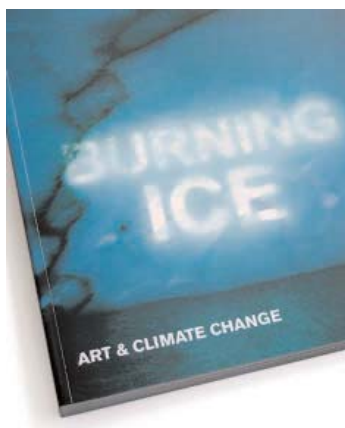
David Buckland is an artist – a photographer, designer and filmmaker – whose photos have been collected by the Metropolitan Museum in New York, the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris and the National Portrait Gallery in London, England. He has spent the past seven years leading expeditions to Cape Farewell on a 100-year-old schooner, the Noorderlicht, in an effort to bring awareness to the public on climate change.

When asked why he agreed to be an ambassador for *rare*, he explained the importance of connecting the global problem of climate change with the local challenge to protect large areas of land from development. "We no longer doubt that there is a global problem in our environment, so we all need local efforts that we can act on today. And large green spaces are important today and even more so in the future."

After thanking his sponsors and, in particular, the British Council, Buckland noted that he is planning a voyage to the Northwest Passage – or what some are calling Canadian Internal Waters – in 2008.

*Art from a Changing Arctic*, a 60-minute film edited from over 200 hours of footage, opened at the Montreal Film Festival just days before David visited Waterloo Region. The film documents the Cape Farewell expeditions – world-renowned artists, including Ian McEwan and climate scientists head into the High Arctic – and shows the response of the artists to the harsh environment and the very visible impacts of climate change on the extraordinary, yet vulnerable, Arctic landscape.

"I'd really like to thank Tricia Siemens of Words Worth Books, and everyone at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, for collaborating on the showing of David's film. They offered to help pull it together at short notice when we learned David would be in Canada," said Patti Leather, Executive Director at *rare*. "We are the only area outside of Montreal to have the chance to view his film and having this at the



Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery seemed like a perfect fit. We are also delighted that CKCO TV made the film accessible across the province."

The film is directed by award-winning filmmaker David Hinton and produced by David Buckland. It features Heather Ackroyd & Dan Harvey, David Buckland, Siobhan Davies, Gautier Deblonde, Antony Gormley, Alex Hartley, Ian McEwan, Michèle Noach and Rachel Whiteread.

David Buckland is joining other *rare* Ambassadors, Severn Cullis-Suzuki, Jane Urquhart, Ed Burtynsky and Morden Yolles.

You can also order the DVD and Buckland's book, *Burning Ice*, from the Cape Farewell website at <http://www.capefarewell.com/>. The website is certainly worth a visit: it was named the best scientific website in the world by the United Nations! ■

### Get your own DVD of *Art From A Changing Arctic*

A limited number of copies of the film on DVD (\$30 Canadian) are available by calling the *rare* office 519-650-9336 X 111 or by email to [rare@rareites.org](mailto:rare@rareites.org).



The DVD of the Cape Farewell documentary *Art From A Changing Arctic* is now available. Edited from over 200 hours of footage, this 60-minute film documents the Cape Farewell expeditions, which took world renowned artists and climate scientists into the High Arctic. Witness the artists' response to the harsh environment and their take on the very visible impacts of climate change on the extraordinary yet vulnerable Arctic landscape. ■

## FOOD LECTURE SERIES

We are excited to offer three lectures by experts in their respective food related fields. Please register for each event at least 2 days prior by calling 519-650-9336 x 111. Lectures are held at the *rare* Administration building, 1679 Blair Rd, Cambridge.

### **Food Miles: The Environmental Costs of Eating Imported Foods**

*Tuesday, May 22nd from 7:00 to 8:30 pm*

How far does your food travel? Marc Xuereb, a Public Health Planner with Region of Waterloo Public Health, recently completed a study of the distances imported foods travel to Waterloo Region, and the greenhouse gas emissions associated with their transport. He'll share the results of that research, and explain how eating local can help you reduce your impact on climate change. Marc's research was featured in a recent issue of Alternatives Journal and on a community radio program called Deconstructing Dinner.

Cost: \$5.00 (*rare* Discount Card holders are free).

### **Slow Food Movement and the Guelph Food Skills Project**

*Wednesday, June 20th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm*

Chris Jess, the co-leader of *Slow Food Guelph*, and founder of the

## Nature Notes by Bill Wilson

- Overwintering BALD EAGLES arrived in late November and were determined to have officially "settled in" by the 6th – 8th of December this season. During December and early January, the eagles occupied the usual perch trees along the reach of the Grand River through **rare**. From mid-January to mid-March, however, eagle sightings were frequently "fly-throughs" in mornings or late afternoons on their way upstream or downstream of the Confluence. Monitoring by members of Kitchener-Waterloo Field Naturalists, Friends of **rare** and local residents this winter tallied a maximum of eight eagles on the river between Zeller Drive, Kitchener, and Spottiswood, south of Glen Morris; four were observed in Brantford by the Brant County monitoring team. The total of 12 eagles on the mid-section of the Grand River equals the maximum observed by the monitoring teams in winter 2006.
- In mid- December, waterfowl were roosting in large number in the baylet along the **rare** shoreline above the Confluence: 227 COMMON GOLDENEYES, 142 COMMON MERGANSER and 17 BUFFLEHEAD. Two GREEN-WING TEAL were observed there on 14 December 2006.
- Two adult BALD EAGLES perched in the CRACK WILLOW upstream of the Confluence on 23 December 2006.
- During the very early morning hours of the Cambridge Christmas Bird Count, 17 December 2006, Jason Bracey, Jerry Guenther and Bill Wilson located EASTERN SCREECH-OWL in both the Hogsback and the Cliffs and Alvares area of **rare**.
- The restoration areas established within the last four years at rare provided an abundant seed crop for scores of AMERICAN GOLDFINCH, DARK-EYED JUNCOS and AMERICAN TREE SPARROWS. Birders reported several species of sparrow including SONG, SWAMP and WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS. A NORTHERN SHRIKE which preys upon small



birds frequented the hedge rows along the restoration sites and **rare** organic fields.

- During the annual mid-winter waterfowl survey conducted 5 January 2007 along the Grand River between Conestogo and Paris, Michelle Bonaldo, Art Timmerman and Bill Wilson recorded two neck-banded CANADA GEESE on Blair Flats within **rare** wetlands. Banding records revealed that the geese were banded in 2001 and 2002 respectively on Akimiski Island, Nunavut, in James Bay.
- On 19 January 2007, Greg Vincent and Bill Wilson observed a male NORTHERN HARRIER in the Cruickston Creek Restoration Area where it had preyed upon an AMERICAN TREE SPARROW.
- Heather and Bill Wilson studied a light morph, male ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK – a winter visitor – on 25 January 2007, hovering over South Field, **rare**.
- The two Bald Eagle Workshops offered by rare this winter were attended by 24 participants. During both workshops, two BALD EAGLES were observed for 15+ minutes. A sub-adult BALD EAGLE harassed an injured HERRING GULL above the Confluence but couldn't make a meal of it. Perhaps later in the day?
- Larry Hubble spotted a hen, LONG-TAILED DUCK during eagle monitoring at the Confluence on 24 February 2007. This arctic nester winters on the lower Great Lakes in considerable number. This sighting, however, is only the third reported within 3-km of the Confluence since 1971.
- Three PILEATED WOODPECKERS were seen by Heather and Bill Wilson along Blair Road on 24 February 2007.
- On 25 February 2007, five GREAT BLUE HERONS remained within the reach of the Grand River through rare.
- In early March, Southwood Secondary School students snow shod portions of **rare**. Together with teacher, Jason Bracey, they spotted 12 WHITE-TAILED DEER, 14 WILD TURKEY, three species of woodpeckers and a MEADOW VOLE.
- On a 15 March outing, Ken Dance, David Buckland, Doug McMullen and Patti Leather discovered a potential COYOTE den on the Reserve.
- Anna Muss, Linda Dutka and Claire Wehrle heard HORNED LARKS singing on Blair Flats on 24 March. That same morning, they observed a COYOTE on the Flats.
- Three WHITE-TAILED DEER "welcomed" **rare organics** manager, Amanda Newel on her visit to Springbank Farm in mid-March.
- Remember 27 March 2007? Temperature was 21°C. Marilyn Armstrong and Jerry Guenther independently reported two flocks of about 70 Tundra Swans at the Confluence. Marilyn had 69 swans at 7:10 am roosting in the baylet; Jerry saw 67 after 9:00 am in flight. From the Confluence, Jerry Guenther spotted a pair of OSPREY "checking out" the nesting platform at Fountain Street bridge. This is a very early arrival date for this species. He also spotted the first TREE SWALLOWS of the season. As well, the 27th of March was a good day to observe waterfowl – 10 species – including BUFFLEHEAD (28), RING-NECKED DUCK (21), LESSER SCAUP (2), NORTHERN SHOVELER (2) and WOOD DUCK (2).
- On April 10, 8: 00 pm Andy Steinberg observed 8+ AMERICAN WOODCOCK doing display flights between the Slit Barn and the river.
- And finally on April 12, in the afternoon, flocks of FOX SPARROWS were seen along Riverbank Trail following the cliffs. Also seen that day was a LINCOLN SPARROW. ■

**Guelph Food Skills Project** will be conducting a visioning workshop and partial cooking demonstration on the vital importance of eating local. The need for developing a strong market for local foods has never been more important. Join Chris as he goes through the finer details of rolling out fresh pasta, how to preserve summer peaches, and how being an efficient home kitchen manager can actually help save the world.

Cost: \$5.00 (**rare** Discount Card holders are free).

### Raw Food Lifestyle

**Thursday, July 26th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm**

Join Rosemary Radford, a certified raw food chef/instructor and nutrition oriented psychotherapist, as she takes green leafy vegetables from **rare's** organic farm and prepares Mother Nature's best kept secret, THE GREEN SMOOTHIE. Green smoothies are fast, easy to prepare and to digest and they taste great! Rosemary tells us that Green Smoothies provide all of the vitamins, minerals and protein the body needs. In this class you will learn how to make these elixirs, have a taste and go home with the recipe.

Cost: \$8.00 (**rare** Discount Card holders are free).

## Bald Eagle Watch *by Matthew Atkin*

It was a chilly morning as we set out along the banks of the Grand River. The temperature was only a few degrees above freezing, and each breath misted on the air. Ten of us piled into three cars and drove past the roundabout on the outskirts of Blair before stopping only a hundred metres beyond it at our first point of watch, trying to spot Bald Eagles.

The snow was fairly compact, but every so often you'd take a step and end up plunging through to your knees. We stopped at a fence with binoculars in hand, and gazed out at the slowly winding river. There were no eagles here, although we were fortunate enough to spot a coyote crouching in the underbrush.



After about 30 minutes of watching we decided to move on. We drove back past the roundabout and a short way into Preston. Here we stopped much closer to the river and trained our eyes eagerly about the rapids. A short while later we received information over the radios that there were four bald eagles winging their way upstream towards us. We turned, and within five minutes saw a pair of sub-adults gliding over the river.

They soared past us and circled slowly over the river. One perched in a tree, but the other circled slowly down. All of us were amazed when we saw that it was attempting a kill on a ring-billed gull. After injuring the bird, the eagle swooped away and perched on a telephone wire, while the eagle perched in the tree headed further upstream.

Seeing the two large predators made for an amazing morning, and the attempted kill was enthralling. If everyone could see a Bald Eagle in action, supreme over their territory, a greater appreciation for the environment would be evident.

*Editor's Note: Matthew is a student at Southwood Secondary School in the Environmental Magnet Program and regularly attends events at rare. He attended the Bald Eagle Monitoring Workshop held on Saturday, February 24, 2007. ■*

## Energy and conservation awareness?

*continued from page 1*

on the launch of this important program. This program is supported by the Community Conservation Initiative Program of the Ontario Ministry of Energy and the generosity of the following companies:



## GRCA Pilot education programs at rare.

Thanks to assistance from and a partnership with the Grand River Conservation Authority, a pilot series of outdoor education programs targeted at Grades 1 through 4 have been offered on the **rare** lands between April 30 and May 11, 2007. The full-day programs are directly related to the Ontario Life Systems school curriculum. Teachers from schools across the Region chose from a long menu of programs that explore plants, soil, trees, small creatures, birds and wildlife habitat. The programs use nature hikes on the alvar and woodland trails as well as hands-on study to allow students to learn in a natural setting. For more information about outdoor education opportunities at **rare**, please contact us at 519-920-9336 x111. ■

## Citizen Science at **rare**

The leaves are budding, sunshine is replacing snow, and familiar melodies of birds returning from their winter homes will soon be heard. But this spring, a group of newly trained "citizen scientists" will be tuning their ears to a different type of melody; the dusk chorus of Ontario's resident frog population.

March witnessed a full house as community members crowded in to **rare** to learn how to identify and monitor frogs under the guidance of Ken Dance, a field naturalist, environmental consultant, and staff member here at **rare**. Known as FrogWatch, the program is one of several that make up the Citizen Science initiative, a joint project of Nature Canada and EMAN (Ecological Monitoring and Assessment). Like other Citizen Science projects, it connects interested community members across the country in an effort to track and report on ecosystem changes.



"Frogs complete portions of their life cycles in water and land," Ken told us. "That makes them fantastic integrators of conditions in both media, and excellent indicators of environmental quality."

Ecosystem monitoring is a mandate here at **rare**, and we're glad to be hosting FrogWatch and other Citizen Science projects. Last summer saw the inception of the ButterflyWatch program by our intern Jessica Grealey, who will be hosting the Second Annual Butterfly Count at **rare** on Saturday July 14, 2007. And this summer marks the beginning of **rare**'s involvement with the PollinatorWatch program with three events; an information session on April 25, field training on April 28 and a Pollinator Hike and Data Collection Day on June 24. All three events will be hosted by the knowledgeable Jim Dyer, an agro-environmental consultant and the program's architect.

Citizen Science depends on volunteers from the community, and no special background is required. If you're interested, we welcome you to attend one of our events, or contact 519-650-9336 x111 for more information. ■

Purchase a **rare** discount card and receive discounted and free admission to workshops and outings with advanced registration.

Cost of the card is just \$30.

For more information, please contact **rare** at 519-650-9336 x 111



## Region's ESL Designation Approved for **rare** Lands

After some diligent efforts by many outspoken supporters on **rare**'s behalf, the Ontario Municipal Board ruled that the Environmentally Sensitive Landscape (ESL) designation can go ahead for the lands that include all of the **rare** Charitable Research Reserve. The lands include seven areas already designated by Waterloo Region as Environmentally Sensitive Policy Areas and a number of provincially significant wetlands.

"This community has protected this special 913-acre parcel of land many times and, as is the case with our environment, we have to remain diligent to be sure it stays intact," says Keith Ainsworth, Chair of the **rare** Board. "We are grateful for all the support we received on this matter."

The Region has adopted two Regional Official Plan Amendments that deal with the criteria for, and designation of, Environmentally Sensitive Landscapes, one of which is the Blair-Bechtel-Cruickston ESL that includes 1,461 hectares (3,610 acres) in North Dumfries and Cambridge and is named after three creeks which drain much of its area. The two under consideration are the first in the Region, but there are plans to designate other areas in the Dumfries Carolinian and Cedar spillway area and the Beverly swamp area.

Waterloo Region has a long history of protecting environmentally sensitive areas, but the new policy differs from earlier efforts to designate sensitive natural areas. The new designation covers large swaths of land and hopes to prevent the natural areas from being compromised by developments on adjacent lands. "The intent," says Kevin Eby, the Region's Director of Community Planning, "is similar to the Province's Greenbelt policies."

The new designation prohibits almost all urban or residential developments and a number of other activities that could change or interfere with the rural nature of the area. The provisions also help ensure that no new developments on

adjacent land will damage or interfere with water quality in streams and creeks on **rare**'s property.

The new ESL designation makes it harder for new aggregate operations to be approved and sets higher standards for rehabilitation.

The new rules also make it harder for any municipal infrastructure to be approved and essentially eliminate the possibility of a bypass or major road within the designated area. A major road and bridge or bridges over the Grand River were once considered as a preferred alternative to easing traffic problems in Cambridge.

The new policies apply to all of the land within the Blair-Bechtel-Cruickston ESL with the exception of lands owned privately, in the northwest corner of the ESL. That section, along with the entire property within the Laurel Creek Environmentally Sensitive Landscape, will be the subject of an Ontario Municipal Board hearing expected to be held later this year. ■

## It's Spring on the Land at **rare** organics

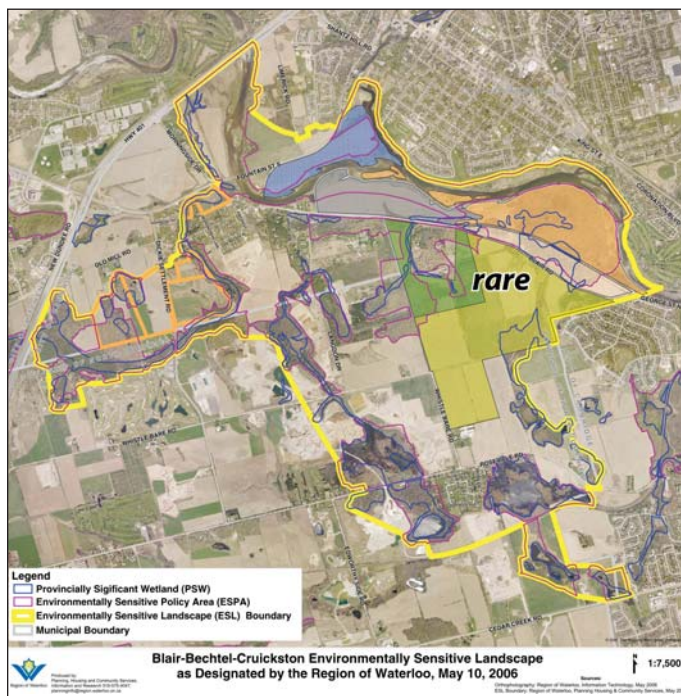
It's spring and I'm on the land at **rare**! What a great feeling. In fact everyone at **rare organics** is very excited to be gearing up for a rewarding and bountiful season, based on **rare**'s values of community, conservation, and research as we bring sustainably-produced food and interesting educational experiences to Cambridge and beyond. Our vision is to be part of a society that nurtures local economy, caring communities and healthy environments. We believe in conserving soil, water, wildlife and fossil fuel resources, along with promoting food and crop diversity. When you support us, you can be confident that you're supporting a responsible, exciting initiative that is looking to make the future brighter for the next generation.



Amanda Newell,  
Farm Manager, **rare organics**

We're busy planning great gardens that will produce beautiful, tasty, healthy harvests for your dinner-plate. There are a few different ways you can reap the benefits of **rare organics**. You can buy into our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) produce box program - you'll find our CSA Brochure enclosed in this newsletter issue - or stop by our very own market, which will be open at our Slit Barn location (768 Blair Rd.) Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm starting in June. Some of our produce will even be making it to local restaurants by special request from area chefs. And we have some new developments in the works. Stay tuned!

You can also get involved! Our organics program could not be successful without the on-going help of our committed volunteers. We thank all existing volunteers, and encourage those of you interested in participating to contact me, Amanda (519-650-9336 x126) or Lisa at 519-650-9336 x116 or [rareorganics@reresites.org](mailto:rareorganics@reresites.org). ■



## Donation of In-Kind Items Needed

Spring is the season of housecleaning, and there is no exception at **rare**. We've been busy planning, organizing, and taking a good look at how we can provide even better programs to the community.

By doing this, we've identified a number of key organizational needs, and would like to take this opportunity to ask for the continued assistance of our strongest supporters. As you do your own spring cleaning in your homes or at the office, we would be grateful if you found you had any of the following items that you might like to donate to rare:

The **rare organics** farm vehicle has officially bit the dust. Our friendly neighborhood mechanic, COCHRANE AUTO BODY, gave it its walking papers after a complimentary checkup. But in order to bring supplies to the fields and move fresh produce to our CSA pick up and market site, a pick-up truck or cargo van is vital. We would greatly appreciate being contacted by anyone willing to donate a decent used vehicle.

Our office equipment is aging, costing our staff time and productivity. We are in need of a network-ready, laser multifunction printer/copier would welcome donations of any computers with at least a 1.8 gigahertz CPU and 512 megabytes of RAM. Energy-efficient LCD flat-panel monitors would also be welcome.

We have lots of willing hands for our restoration projects this summer, but not enough tools to fill them. Round-mouth shovels and wheelbarrows would help enormously, as would any mulch to put in the wheelbarrows.

Lastly, our library database is nearing completion and we'll start shelving books soon – but first, we need some shelves. Any matched sets would be most appreciated, as would file cabinets and a label maker.

Of course, a donation of cash to support the charity's operations is a welcome alternative. As a busy organization managing an environmental project of this size, we have many needs. A cash gift allows us to determine where the funds are needed most.

As ever, **rare** would like to extend its thanks to you for your continuing interest and assistance. The preservation of **rare's** priceless ecological resources and the delivering of our community programs could not happen without your generous support. ■

## KID COMA Rocks **rare**

On a cold February 16th, **rare** paid tribute to **friends** and rock-n-roll memories. Yes, our Annual Friends Soiree took on a life of its own this year as we relived a night that could have been in the former Nicholson's Tavern, with the sounds of KID COMA. The blues flavoured rock band is headed by our Research Co-Director, Doug Larson, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Guelph. The dance floor was in full swing and the café was occupied by those eager to talk to old friends and new acquaintances.

The Soiree represents a celebration of all those who have, through their involvement, helped protect this very-special 913-acre Reserve held in trust by the charity for the public. It was a pleasure to see all of you there.

Many sponsors made this event a night to remember! We want to extend a very special thank you to Thomas Aldridge, owner of Manhattan's Pizza Bistro & Music Club in Guelph, who kept our party-goers fed with Manhattan's famous pizza inspired by a love of fresh food, ambience, great music, and good friends. Thomas personally helped with many arrangements for the party. Thank you also to Wellington Brewery and Premiere Brands Brewery for their generous donation of libations.

With us that night was long-time friend of **rare**, Greg Pautler. Greg is well-known locally for his graphics business and as an artist. He generously donated one of his watercolour prints of the Resource House and Slit Barn site, which was auctioned in support of the charity. Congratulations to Jan Liggett who had the successful bid!

Many volunteers made this evening possible. Conestoga College students in the Recreation and Leadership program, taught by Greg Burns, came out to lend their many hands, cleaning, decorating and serving at the party. The building looked incredible. We thank you for your continued support, Greg! ■

yes, I want to support rare!



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(If you wish, you can designate your gift to a specific project. Please specify.) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Please put my email address on your list to receive the **rare e-bulletin** about exciting news, imminent threats to the property, wildlife sightings on the property, etc. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I understand my name (or the name of someone I designate) will be displayed permanently on the property. Please indicate, clearly, exactly how you would like this name displayed. \_\_\_\_\_

our charitable registration # is 87761 5914 0001

## Former Drive Shed to be Incorporated in Local Student Housing Project

The Drive Shed at **rare organics'** Springbank Farm is a familiar landmark along Blair Road. It has played a supporting role in activities at the farm for many years. Unfortunately, the condition of the shed has become a hazard and is in danger of sliding into the road. But rather than just demolish it, **rare** is collaborating with University of Waterloo architecture students who will give the beams, boards and doors a new life in their project, called **Grand House Student Cooperative** being built in Galt this summer. This innovative student project considers sustainability concepts such as a building's embodied energy, a measure of all the energy required to harvest, transport and process resources from the time they are removed from the earth to the time they become a component of a finished building. By working towards a house that is sustainable, with net-zero energy, or simply one that respects the planet's ecology, the folks involved with the Grand House strive to balance a low embodied energy with building components that will ensure the long life and efficient operation of their home.



One way they can achieve this admirable goal is to incorporate reused and recycled materials into the construction of the Grand House. This way, good quality building materials, such as those in **rare's** shed, get a second life, waste is diverted from the landfill and energy and resources are saved in manufacturing new products.

The Grand House Cooperative will build a ten-bedroom student residence, within walking distance of the School of Architecture. If you have something new or used that you would like to donate or have other materials that you think would be useful please contact the Grand House or check their website for a list of needed materials. [www.grandhouse.wacsa.org](http://www.grandhouse.wacsa.org). ■

## Archaeology 2006 by Chris Dalton

Another archaeological season has passed and still another is about to begin. John MacDonald and I, with the help of a few other volunteers, including Justine Dalton, did some test pitting in the upper part of Cruickston Creek. This was a follow-up from the previous season when Peter Brennan, John MacDonald and I discovered some flakes lower down on the Creek.

The upper organic fields yielded a few finds. In January, I picked up a partial Netting Point approximately 9500 years old. Martha Gay Scroggins discovered a small biface in the herb garden and a centre portion of a Woodland Point.

Again this year, John MacDonald from the Ministry of Culture brought students to **rare** that were employed for the summer by the Ministry. They helped John dig some squares on the flats between the slit barn and the river. They found a lot of flaking debris as well as a small archaic point.

I spent some time away from **rare** during the season, one event being *Hopewell: Origins, Artistry and Culture* put on by the Archaeological Society of Ohio in Columbus. I also attended the Ontario Archaeological Symposium in London at the Lamplighter Inn, hosted by the London Chapter of the Ontario Archaeological Society, of which I am a member. Another interesting sideline was to participate in an exploratory dig with Dr. Chris Ellis in Parkhill, Ontario. I spent three days excavating a Broadpoint Late Archaic site.

After attending the Ohio Symposium, I picked up a complete Adena Point in the upper organics field made of Upper Mercer chert from Ohio. The point type is pre-Hopewellian and originated in the Ohio Valley (what a coincidence). This was also close to the location that I found a quartz thumbnail scraper in March.

This year I'm hoping that perhaps we might start a small dig on one of the various sites that John MacDonald, Peter Brennan and I have located over the years. This would be supplemented by more test pitting on various locations throughout the property that we haven't investigated yet. ■



Adena Point,  
Upper Mercer chert



Netting Point,  
Onondaga chert

## Outdoor Watercolour Techniques

Join painter Marion Anderson ([www.marionanderson.ca](http://www.marionanderson.ca)) as she leads a group out on the **rare** property for a 2-day watercolour workshop on May 16 & 17, 2007 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Register by calling Chandra at the Homer Watson House & Gallery at 519-748-4377.

Meeting location is Resource House and Slit Barn, 768 Blair Rd., Cambridge.



## New Directors on **rare** Board

The staff at **rare** would like to extend a warm welcome to Angela Tsementzis and Gerald Achtymichuk, newly elected appointees to the board of directors. Their presence is a welcome addition to the board following the retirement of former directors Karen Farbridge, who will be concentrating on her many responsibilities as the newly elected Mayor of Guelph, and Jim Chaplin of Canadian General Tower Limited.



(left to right) G. Achtymichuk, P. Krause, K. Ainsworth, A. Tsementzis, and B. McGee (P. Koch not shown).

Angela Tsementzis is a graduate of Architecture at the University of Waterloo. Currently working with Superkul Architects in Toronto and teaching occasionally at the School of Architecture here in Cambridge, she counts among her many accomplishments the restoration of Hilborn House, the iconic Arthur Erickson house located just across the river from **rare**. Her commitment to the relationship between the built environment and its landscape will provide **rare** with appreciated insight and guidance.

Gerald Achtymichuk is an active supporter of the Cambridge community, where he opened his family medical practice in 1984. A graduate of the University of Calgary Medical School and father of four, Gerald is lead trumpet in the Wellington Winds ensemble. He and his wife, Carol Ann, have 4 children all of whom are active in the arts and culture. The family cites the environment as a priority project for them when it comes to volunteering. ■

## Contact Us

**rare** Charitable  
Research Reserve

1679 Blair Road,  
Cambridge ON N3H 4R8  
Phone: (519) 650-9336  
Fax: (519) 650-5923  
Email: rare@raresites.org  
Websites: www.raretome.ca www.raresites.org



### **rare** Staff

**Patti Leather**, Executive Director  
**Erin Aucoin**, Intern, **rare organics**  
**Lauren Cymbaly**, Carolinian Canada Research Assistantship  
**David Fletcher**, Community and Education Intern, **rare organics**  
**Lisa Hagen**, Assistant Farm Manager, **rare organics**  
**Neil Jones**, Intern, **rare organics**  
**Amanda Newell**, Farm Manager, **rare organics**  
**Susan Otten**, Fundraising and Communications Assistant  
**Ian Rowett**, Bookkeeper



## Leadership

### Board of Directors

**Keith Ainsworth**, Chair of the Board, Chairman COM DEV International  
**Gerald Achtymichuk**, Family Physician, Private Practice  
**Paul Koch**, Marketing & Management Consultant & Civic Entrepreneur  
**Peter Krause**, Trillium Environmental Consulting Inc. & International Director of International River Foundation

**Brian McGee**, Chartered Accountant, Partner of Zeifman & Company LLP  
**Angela Tsementzis**, Architect, Superkul Architects

### Environmental Advisory Team/Committee

**Chris Dalton**, Avocational Archaeologist, Licensed by the Province of Ontario  
**Larry Lamb**, Manager Ecology Lab, Adjunct Lecturer, Environmental Studies, University of Waterloo

**Doug Larson**, Faculty Member, College of Biological Sciences, University of Guelph

**Alan Morgan**, Faculty Member, Earth Sciences, University of Waterloo

**Stephen Murphy**, Faculty Member, Environment & Resource Studies, University of Waterloo

**Martin Neumann**, Supervisor of Terrestrial Resources, Grand River Conservation Authority

**Bill Wilson**, retired Teacher, Naturalist, Regional Co-ordinator, Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas

### Ambassadors

**David Buckland**, Founder, Cape Farewell Project [www.capefarewell.com](http://www.capefarewell.com), director of the film Art from a Changing Arctic

**Ed Burtunsky**, Renowned artist and subject of award-winning documentary, Manufactured Landscapes

**Severn Cullis-Suzuki**, Environmental activist, speaker, television host & author

**Jane Urquhart**, Canadian author, an Officer of the Order of Canada

**Morden Yolles**, Multi-Award winning Canadian structural engineer, restaurateur and photographer

### Building Committee

**Chris Dalton**, (see previous)

**Graham Lobban**, LobbanStroud Building Inspections

**Robert Milligan**, Environmental Health Analyst

**Val Rynnimeri**, Faculty Member, School of Architecture, University of Waterloo

### Archaeology Committee

**Chris Dalton**, (see previous)

**John MacDonald**, Archaeologist/Heritage Planner, Ministry of Culture, Province of Ontario

### Education Committee

**Jason Bracey**, Teacher, Southwood Secondary School, Cambridge

**Susan Trotter**, Teacher, New Dundee Public School

### Directors of Research

**Doug Larson**, Co-Director (see previous)

**Stephen Murphy**, Co-Director (see previous)

### Campaign Cabinet

**Keith Ainsworth**, Chairman, COM DEV International

**John K. Bell**, President and CEO, Polymer Technologies Inc.

**Stewart Campbell**, BlackTree Capital

**Valerie Hall**, Administrator, Musagetes Foundation

**Doug McMullen**

**Joy Roberts**

**Hugh Thompson**, President, Cambridge Towel and CEO Thompson Centre for Art and Design