

The **rare** review

SPRING 2014

Mapping **rare's** future together

By Stephanie Sobek-Swant

Sitting at my desk with both feet immersed in exciting projects ranging from North House grant proposals to mapping invasive plants, **rare** certainly does not feel like a stranger anymore, considering my only brief tenure in office. It should not come as a surprise: **rare** is a natural fit for anyone with a passion for conservation, research and education. As an internationally trained ecologist, I feel excited and inspired by the possibilities and challenges **rare** offers.

To me, **rare** is more than just a place, or an environmental organization. Coming on board as the new leader, every day I am meeting intelligent, dedicated people with a real hunger for protecting the environment - **rare** is a vocal community of diverse stakeholders, and we are getting ready to open the next chapter.

In the short term, we are looking forward to finishing the final phase of a major capital project, the **rare** ECO Centre, which still needs to be furnished with a functional teaching lab, classroom and quarters for visiting researchers.

Offering overnight accommodation will, for the first time, allow us to host external researchers, and greatly increase our impact and visibility in the scientific community outside Waterloo Region, bringing us one step closer to our long-term vision of becoming Canada's leading environmental institute.

continued on page 3....



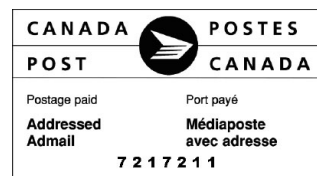
Dr. Stephanie Sobek-Swant
Executive Director, **rare**
Photography by P. Leather.



Cover photography by D. Crowell

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What is *rare* to you?

By Patti Leather



Inge Moore. Photography by P. Leather

For Inge Moore, it's solace. As she wanders up the laneway to the Springbank Community Gardens and passes the now relic farm instruments on display, she's reminded of farming during her childhood on Lolland Island in Denmark. When she gets to the top, she finds the school groups she sees plucking ripe tomatoes encouraging.

"We have to help kids get back to the basics. Potatoes come out of the ground," she says. The importance of her volunteer work in the gardens, since 2004, is influenced by her educational background in nutrition.

But Inge's love affair with this 900+ acre property started back in 2002 after she retired from working and living in Toronto since 1960. She'd worked very hard, often juggling several jobs at one time, supporting two children as a single mother. With her son and daughter now grown and in professional roles living in Waterloo and Burlington, Inge had no ties to the big city and longed for a new place to call home – a simple house near green parks and with places to walk her dogs. Inge didn't remember how many homes her real estate agent took her to see but she'll never forget when she decided to move to Cambridge. "We pulled up to this nice enough house and just then, a fox went running across the road coming from the backyard area. I said, oh, I like this place." And so it was, Inge found herself a new community.

It was the bald eagles that brought her to *rare* though. She'd read a piece in the paper about a group's efforts to monitor

the magnificent species who were then endangered. Bill Wilson, *rare's* Land Steward at the time, was quoted and Inge called him. She came out really early one cold Saturday morning in February, to a *rare* public outing, led by Bill, his wife Heather, and a group of volunteer eagle monitors, to view eagles as they moved about the Grand River corridor feeding. From that day, *rare* has been a significant part of Inge's life. She gardens and grows food here. She walks the trails. Inge attends many of our community offerings – workshops, guided hikes, lectures, etc. She bakes cookies for the staff at Christmas. She mentors newer volunteers and finds ways to raise money and awareness for *rare*.

Recently, Inge called us to say that she'd been to see her lawyer and that she was leaving a gift to *rare* through her will as a planned gift. She'd talked it over with her children who were completely supportive. "I've always been prudent with my money. I made sure my kids got a good education and helped them get started as independent adults. But, I can't seem to win the 649 so I better make other arrangements to help *rare*."

By giving, Inge hopes to help other people's children receive environmental education and her grandchildren can enjoy a space she was so committed to. Her vision is that *rare* will grow, expanding its lands. Our population is growing and our needs as a community will too. We'll need housing and we'll need roads and we'll need green spaces – green spaces that are large enough to support wildlife and biodiversity and provide people with access to nature.

Thanks Inge, for everything you give. You will always be a part of *rare*.

Inge Moore has been a face of *rare* for over a decade. This is her *rare*. What is *rare* to you?

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Several factors account for drastic decline of Monarchs

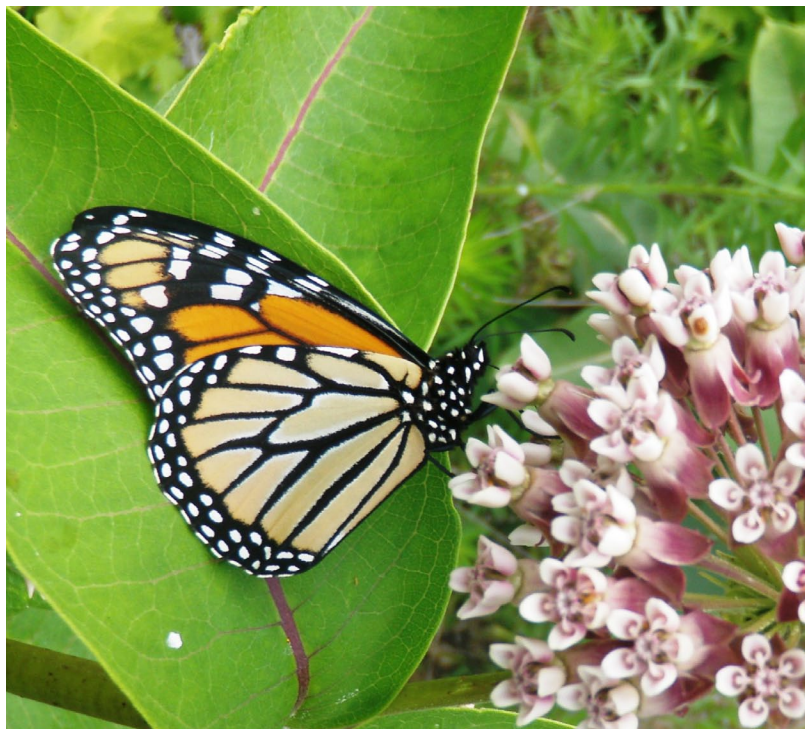
By Jenna Quinn

A fluttering glimpse of orange and black is typically a common summer sight. Monarch butterflies, the most widely recognized species here at **rare**, are a topic of international concern after overwintering in Mexico in record-low numbers. Monarchs uniquely migrate long distances, leaving cold northern temperatures to soak up the sun in Mexico through the winter. Resting on tree branches, the Monarchs spend the season in a restful state known as diapause, emerging from it in the spring to lay eggs, which will eventually become the next generation of butterflies that journey back north. With so many Monarchs migrating to Mexico, abundance is recorded in the amount of acreage they cover rather than attempting to count each individual. At their peak, Monarch populations covered 44.5 acres. This past winter, they covered 1.65 acres. The obvious question: why?

Monarchs rely on milkweed plants for survival. Females lay their eggs on milkweed plants, and the emerging caterpillars feed exclusively on the toxic weed. Simply put: no milkweed equals no Monarchs. As more and more land is used for agriculture and development, important areas for Monarchs to feed and reproduce are disappearing. Logging, herbicide use, and extreme weather have all contributed to the decline in Monarch populations over the past 10 years. Since Monarchs migrate such a large distance, it is important that milkweed is available throughout the journey, requiring international partnership to protect habitat. At the recent North American summit meeting, leaders from all three countries pledged to conserve the Monarch butterfly, a symbol that unites Canada, United States, and Mexico.

At **rare**, milkweed abounds across several areas of the property. In 2012, 430 Monarchs were observed during the 14-week monitoring program, followed by only 17 observations in 2013. It is difficult to predict what sort of observations will be made in 2014, only emphasizing the importance of ongoing monitoring. While the risk of

Monarch extinction is not great given they are found in several areas around the world, the likelihood that the incredible migration will continue is grim. It is unknown where populations from Canada will go to survive the winter. Monarchs have scientific, cultural, and educational value in addition to their intrinsic worth. With so much still to learn about this lengthy insect migration, its disappearance would be a substantial loss.



Photography by J. Quinn

This spring, **rare** is celebrating the grand opening of an interpretive butterfly loop trail. This loop around the community gardens highlights important native habitat for many butterfly species, including providing milkweed for Monarchs, and is complete with eight interpretive signs.

Mapping **rare's** future together *(continued from page 1)*

Of course, ambitious goals are not achieved over night, and I hope I will get many opportunities to interact and work with you to develop a new, sound strategic plan for **rare's** road to the future. We have arrived at interesting crossroads, evolving from a local organization to an institution that I, as an expert in my field, am sure will have increased impact and gain interest nationally as well as internationally. It is time to sit down, rethink, and to map our path to the future together.

We will raise our profile, and every stakeholder is invited to be part of this process. I cannot wait to learn from you how to better serve our community, and I hope to meet many of you this summer for fruitful discussions, gardening sessions at Springbank, or just enjoying a hike on the trails.

Being part of **rare** is a pleasure, and we have much to look forward to!

Stephanie

It is time to think green again

By Dan Radoslav

Look outside your window. What do you see? What did you notice as your first sign of spring? For me, it is the hundreds of little seedlings started in the greenhouse in preparation for the 2014 gardening season. The greenhouse had some work done to it last year, and now with its brand new heating system, will be used to grow all of the vegetables and herbs for **rare's** Education and Demonstration Gardens, as well as some plants for the Community Roots Food Bank Garden.

We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to Primemax Energy for donating their services while installing the heating system in the greenhouse. Projects like **rare's** Springbank Community Gardens are made possible because of the generosity of people and companies such as them in our community.

Seeds sown - tomatoes, onions, squash, peppers, cucumber, broccoli and pumpkins – with the help of volunteers, are among the crops that will be planted, tended to throughout the season and harvested in the summer or fall. School groups will play a major role in the gardens – it is incredible to see the children's excitement when they pluck the season's first carrot.

With ever-growing community demand, the community gardens continue to expand. In 2013, the Stork family provided funds for some much-needed equipment while the New Horizons for Seniors grant helped us ensure accessibility for our older gardeners. Our recent win in the Nature's Path Gardens for Good North American competition will enable us to put in highly-appreciated infrastructure. Plans for 2014 include new washroom facilities with composting toilets. It helps us support the increased use of the Gardens. Everyone has to go sometime!



Red Leaf Exchange Student in Foodbank Garden.
Photography by B. Burr

PRIMEMAX ENERGY INC.

Our needs are many. Can you help?

By Lora Woolner

With the official opening of the **rare ECO Centre** last fall, 2014 promises to be an exciting year for **rare's** facilities and programming. We've hit a major milestone – we have a home for our *Chain of Learning!* For the first time ever, we've been able to offer year-round *Every Child Outdoors* education programming, with more than 300 students visiting us this winter.

Starting this summer, **rare's ECO Centre** will also provide the community with a great new facility for workshops and programs, as well as comfortable accommodations for field researchers who conduct research on our property. But, we need help in outfitting our facilities with critical furniture and equipment. The following in-kind donations of new or gently used items are requested to complete the **rare ECO Centre** and facilitate research and education.



Can you help with our Wish List?

Bookcases, shelving, mini fridge, bedside tables (2), dressers (2), lamps (3), desk chairs (3), kitchen cart (1), single beds (4), utensils / dishes / serving dishes, coffee makers / kettles / toaster, ceiling-mounted projector screen (1), printer (1), laminator (1) + laminating supplies, recycling and garbage containers, office supplies (staplers / 3-hole punches / rulers, etc.), plastic storage bins (various), bulletin boards with legs / wheels, single mattresses (4)*, bedding for single beds* (4 sheets, pillows, blankets, or duvets), dish towels / table cloths*, classroom tables (3)*, stackable classroom chairs (24)*, specialized IT and laboratory equipment are also required. Contact **rare** to find out more.

**New Only (cash or in-kind)*

If you would like to donate an item, please contact Jenna Quinn in advance
(519) 650-9336 x 111
jenna.quinn@reresites.org
so that we can assess whether it meets our current requirements.

For a complete and up-to-date list of **rare's** most pressing equipment and furniture needs visit:

reresites.org/wishlist

Remnants of cultural landscapes tell tales of the past at *rare*

By John MacDonald

While hiking on the east side of the Hogsback on October 30, 2013 to plan future restoration efforts, Shawna Craig – *rare* Land Steward, and John MacDonald – a former heritage planner with the province, stopped to take a GPS reading where an east-west running hedgerow abuts the east side of the Hogsback. Here, they discovered a tight row of pine stumps, all oriented on their sides edging the woodlot. These stumps would have formed a fence along the property boundary between lots 16 and 17, Concession XII, as originally surveyed by Adrian Marlett in 1816-17.

Besides mapping lot lines, future road allowances, and water courses, the early surveyors also kept records of the dominant vegetation. On the east half of Lot 17 (now known as *rare's* Springbank Farms) Marlett indicated open marsh (Cruickston Creek and Hogsback). For Lot 16 and to the east he indicated elm, basswood, and pine. As the early settlers cleared the trees from their land, the pine stumps in particular would have been placed along the field edges to act as ready-made fences, that can sometimes still be found nearly 200 years later.



Photography by S. Craig

Remnants of a stone wall are extant along the south side of Blair Road extending approximately 300 metres from opposite the driveway to the *rare* ECO Centre to the curve in the road just west of Springbank. Little of this wall resembles how it originally appeared except where vegetation has more or less hampered its removal by passers-by.

Originally built in 1901 parallel to Blair Road and on both sides of the road, a circa 1953 photo by F.W.R Dickson shows a smooth-faced, granite dressed stone wall approximately two feet high, topped with large, roundish field stones.

The north wall has completely disappeared, but there remains enough of the south wall to get the impression as to how the wall was generally constructed. It is assumed that first a trench would have been dug to below the frost line, then filled with rocks (the bigger the better). Above ground, the wall is actually two parallel walls leaning in towards the centre line, each side supporting the other. Any hollow space in the interior of the wall was filled with rubble debris from the dressed stone.



Photography by S. Craig

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Making science accessible... research at *rare*

By Jenna Quinn

One of the greatest things about *rare* is that it offers a wide range of opportunities for each person to bond with nature and the outdoors- whether you hike, garden, bird watch, snowshoe, take pictures, count butterflies or enjoy nature in another way. For me, that bond with nature is through research, one of the things that makes *rare* so unique. You hear us say it over and over again "conservation, research, education." These are the pillars that *rare* was founded on and the mission that guides us, but what does it mean that research is among them?

The *rare* Research Forum is a chance to bring the research happening at *rare* to the community, drawing research out to the forefront for everyone to experience. The Forum is not filled with in-depth methodologies or statistical analysis; rather it is a platform for researchers to talk about what they are studying at *rare* and why it is important. It gives community members the opportunity to ask questions and learn about the impact studies happening right here in Waterloo Region are making worldwide. It is through research that *rare* is able to have global impact on a wide array of topics.

Join *rare* in welcoming Jane Gilbert, Chief Communications Officer with the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), who will open the Forum with a keynote address on the importance of engaging community in nature, and her experiences doing so with the NCC and as co-host and senior producer with the Discovery Channel.

So come one, come all. Bring your burning questions about garlic mustard, old-growth forests, and tallgrass prairies. Mingle with *rare* staff and researchers. Learn about how research is connected to our conservation and education efforts, and become connected with the science of nature.

REGISTER ONLINE NOW

raresites.org/events

WHAT *rare* Research Forum:

Science Accessibility

WHEN Saturday, May 3

WHERE *rare* ECO Centre, Slit Barn



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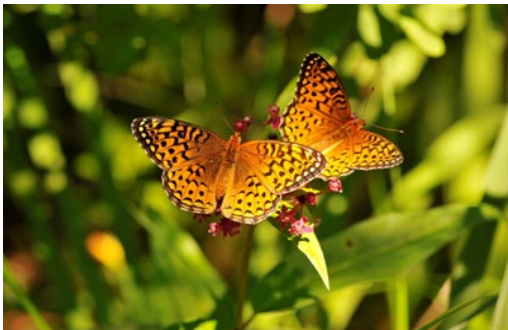


1 Staff at North House

1 On Feb 06, World Wildlife Fund celebrated Sweater Day and **rare** staff was happy to show their support of energy conservation, donning sweaters and showcasing North House, a facility that promotes research on green building.

2 Calling all butterfly lovers! With monitoring beginning in May, plenty of volunteer opportunities exist.

3 All the snow was put to good use, with more snowshoeing than ever at **rare** this winter.



2 Butterfly



3 Snowshoeing



4 rare ECO Centre

4 As part of the 2013 CFBA Project Awards, the Canadian Farm Builders Association honoured HFH Inc. with the Commercial-Institutional Facility award thanks to the successful renovation of the **rare** ECO Centre.



6 The Ontario Archaeological Society



5 Thank you volunteers

5 Three cheers for volunteers! We thanked donors and volunteers at a packed open house in January. In photo, Heather Wilson.

6 The Grand River Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Ontario was initiated at **rare** in January. Meetings are held at the Resource House of the **rare** ECO Centre on the second Tuesday of each month. New members are welcome.

Bird monitoring during November about the laneways, hedgerows and forest edges of **rare** by Ross Dickson, Jerry Guenther and Bill Wilson noted the arrival of ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK and NORTHERN SHRIKE. On November 16, Jason Bracey tracking along forest edges, observed a RUFFED GROUSE, a noteworthy sighting given its significant decline in Waterloo Region. AMERICAN PIPIT and RUSTY BLACKBIRD remained in small numbers; three EASTERN BLUEBIRDS remained until at least November 20. WINTER WREN skulked about groundwater seepages and Cruickston Creek in the Hogsback unaware of what winter 2014 would bring.



A long but narrow lead in the ice above the Confluence on the Speed provided open water for Trumpeter Swans. Photography by D. Thomas

Winter waterfowl numbers increased in mid-November through December to 1700 +/- 300 MALLARDS, CANADA GEESE and AMERICAN BLACK DUCKS by month's end. Diving Ducks – primary indicators of overwintering arrivals – included 27 BUFFLEHEAD (November 20), 89 COMMON GOLDENEYE (December 1), 17 COMMON MERGANSER (December 1). Individual WOOD DUCK, NORTHERN PINTAIL, a pair of RED-BREASTED MERGANSER and nine GADWALL added to the tally.

The Audubon Christmas Bird Counts in Kitchener (December 14) and Cambridge (December 15) collectively cover most of **rare**. During the period December 12-18, 50 species of birds were tallied thanks to count participants Jason Bracey, Ross Dickson, Jerry Guenther, Larry Hubble, Ruth Kroft, Anne McLagan and Heather and Bill Wilson. Thanks also to Michael Collins for his sighting of PILEATED WOODPECKER in the Thompson Tract. A few sightings of PURPLE FINCH in southern Ontario were noted on Christmas counts including one at **rare** by Ross Dickson.

A noteworthy sighting at the confluence of the Grand and Speed Rivers, by Guenther and Wilson on December 18: through telescopes, they observed a COMMON RAVEN feeding on a CANADA GOOSE carcass. Not two metres away, an adult RED-TAILED HAWK cautiously consumed its "share." Nearby, two AMERICAN CROWS were apparently waiting for scraps. In a CRACK WILLOW, 8-10 metres above the carcass remains perched an adult BALD

EAGLE, appearing uninterested – likely having initiated the feasting before we arrived.

The Confluence has consistently recorded some of the highest numbers and diversity of waterfowl during the annual MNR waterfowl count along the Grand River. On January 8, Art Timmerman and Graham Buck observed 15 TRUMPETER SWANS, 19 COMMON GOLDENEYE and one CANADA GOOSE. Swans were reported between December 21 and January 28 (Jerry Guenther; Don Thomas; Bill Wilson) with a maximum of 21 – seven adults and 14 after-hatch-year young – on January 26 and 28.

From his Preston residence overlooking the **rare** cliffs, Andy Kelly spotted a RED FOX on river ice in early February. Prior to freeze-up, November 27, Don Thomas spotted a NORTHERN RIVER OTTER upstream of the Confluence along the Speed River shoreline (see page 10 for report on first **rare** sighting).

BALD EAGLE hunting perch sites first mapped along the **rare** shorelines 12-15 years ago continue to be occupied not only by overwintering arrivals but also year-round residents. Through November 2013 to February 2014, an adult pair and at least one subadult were observed although infrequently during the freeze-up period.



Have some **rare** finds of your own?

Contact **rare** Nature Notes by emailing rare@raresites.org with "Nature Notes" in the subject line.

rare: A cornerstone of carolinian habitat

By Ken Dance and Kevin Dance

The Carolinian Zone is a crescent-shaped life zone stretching from Kingston to Grand Bend and lying north of Lakes Ontario and Erie; and in Ontario, stretching to Lake Huron in the west.

This life zone provides habitat for a variety of plants and animals which are widespread in the U.S., but are at their northern limit in the Carolinian Zone of Ontario. This zone is the only habitat in Canada for an impressive number of endangered, threatened and rare species. It is also home to millions of human beings.

Carolinian species present on the **rare** lands include the Giant Swallowtail, a butterfly which migrates into southern Ontario from the south, but which has reproduced at **rare**.

The Common Hackberry, which lines the route to the tip of Point Pelee, is a dominant Carolinian tree species along the Grand River corridor at **rare**, but doesn't extend much beyond Waterloo Region. This tree provides food for several Carolinian butterfly species in the summer and the tree's fruits provide critical food for flocks of autumn migrant and winter resident birds. Since Common Hackberry can grow on dry sites, we predict that as the climate warms, it will expand its range northward.

The **rare** reserve is situated at a strategic site within the Carolinian Zone. The reserve straddles the Grand River, a known route for the expansion of southern bird species that have increased their ranges during the last century. The Northern Cardinal, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse and Carolina Wren all have moved northerly along river corridors such as the Grand, within the last 50-100 years.

The major rivers, with their attendant large habitat areas, are particularly important in the winter when they provide shelter, food and water for expanding populations. Survival can be especially difficult at the northern limit of the range of Carolinian species, since temperatures are lower and snow can be deeper than south of the Great Lakes.

The role of **rare** is particularly important because through formal education programs for students and hikes and lectures for the general public the stories of the Carolinian Zone, the challenges facing it, and the features and functions present within this life zone are being told.

Stepping back to consider the "bigger picture," the Carolinian Zone plays a pivotal role in connecting the billions of birds that nest in the Boreal Forest to the north, with the wintering grounds in the U.S., Mexico, Central and South America. Yellow Warblers, which have been banded at **rare** and could winter as far away as South America, have been re-captured by banders at **rare** in subsequent years.

The scientists who monitor the population size, migration and wintering of the Monarch butterfly have recently warned



Hackberry bark. Photography by P. Kelly

migration route may result in Monarchs not being able to feed frequently enough to sustain their migratory feat, the result being Monarch population declines. (See more on Monarchs this issue of the **rare review** p. 3.)

To this end, the **rare** lands play a strategic role in the provision of food, water and shelter for longer distance bird and butterfly migrants. The large size of the preserved natural area makes it particularly important.



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Northern River Otters at *rare*

By Bill Wilson

On an outing last fall, I observed a family of three Northern River Otters (*Lontra canadensis*) along the shoreline of **rare Charitable Research Reserve**, about 300 metres upstream of the confluence of the Grand and Speed rivers. This sighting represents my first record of otter on the Grand River. I spotted the otters while I was observing and recording early arrivals of wintering waterfowl.

No records of Northern River Otter were documented in The Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario (Dobbyn, 1994) for the entire Grand River Watershed. Campbell and Dagg (1972) and Campbell et al. (1997) cite historical records for both Waterloo and Wellington Counties – primarily the latter – including evidence from Wilmot Township about 1830. Otters were present in north Wellington into early 1900s. By 1923, well-known naturalist J. Dewey Soper, who had spent his early naturalist years in both Wellington and Waterloo Counties, considered Northern River Otter “very rare if still surviving” there (Campbell and Dagg, 1972; Dalton, 2010). In 1962 and 1971, Campbell and Dagg received reports “by several competent observers” of otters “at their slides on the banks of the Grand River and at plunge holes in the ice.”

GRCA also documented slides and tracks in 1996 in Wellington County (Campbell et al. 1997). Greg Michalenko and Carroll Klein observed an otter upstream of Conestoga in early fall about 2005. Greg also verified an otter sighting from a photo taken in Bechtel Park in or about 2010.

In 2013, observations of otter activity were made at Rockwood Conservation Area, in the Eramosa River and



Photography by K. Tupman

downstream of Inverhough in the Grand River. Three otters were photographed at Luther Marsh by Kevin Tupman and Tony Zammit.

A 2001 story in The Wood Duck suggested that the increased extent of natural areas in the rural portions of our watersheds are providing suitable habitat for species which were extirpated following extensive forest clearing and wetland draining associated with European settlement in the 1800s.

Our provincially significant wetlands, environmentally sensitive areas and environmental sensitive landscapes of which **rare** is a part, may contribute to the renewed presence of Northern River Otter in our region.



Photography by K. Tupman

Bird banding is a passion at *rare*

By Bob Burt

For Kevin Grundy, the fascination with bird banding goes back to his boyhood days growing up on the Jersey Channel Islands south of England. Kevin moved to Canada in 1989, and started banding birds first at the Pinery Provincial Park, in 2006, and at *rare* in 2008.

"Someone recommended *rare* when I moved here from London in 2007 and we've been going ever since. We [the banders] consider it a real privilege to be able to go there," he said.

Starting in late April, Kevin and Georg Hentsch set up about half an hour before sun rise, and monitor seven nets every 15 or 20 minutes during the Saturday and Sunday shifts. While Kevin and Georg work the area near the historic slit barn, fiancées Brett Fried and Erika Hentsch, monitor an even larger number of nets at Springbank Farm.

Kevin and Brett are both licensed by the Canadian Wildlife Service and both have the permits required to band birds.

Each bird, is removed with care from the netting, identified, weighed, measured and banded. Notes are made about the age, sex weight and any fat deposits (fuel storage) and then released, Kevin says.

If any of the banded birds are found once they reach their destination, a report is filed with the United States Geological Service and whoever banded the bird is notified.

Birds will start moving through *rare* near the end of April, but in spring it is kind of hit and miss, says Georg. "They want to get to where they are going as fast as possible in the spring. Most of the migration is at night and unless there is bad weather when they drop down for shelter, they keep going."

They are more apt to stop over and refuel in the fall on their way south. Located at the confluence of the Speed and Grand rivers, *rare* is a popular stopover for birds moving south for the winter. Red-eyed vireos, Baltimore Orioles, Olive-sided flycatcher, along with a variety of warbler and wrens are among the species that have been observed.

The bird banding program at *rare* is an excellent partnership between banders with a passion and an organization with a thirst for the knowledge they can provide. The monitoring results help indicate possible trends about population sizes and migration patterns which can be influenced by any number of different factors.



rare's Vision

To offer the community, including the international community and future generations, a natural area, protected intact and in perpetuity.

rare's Mission

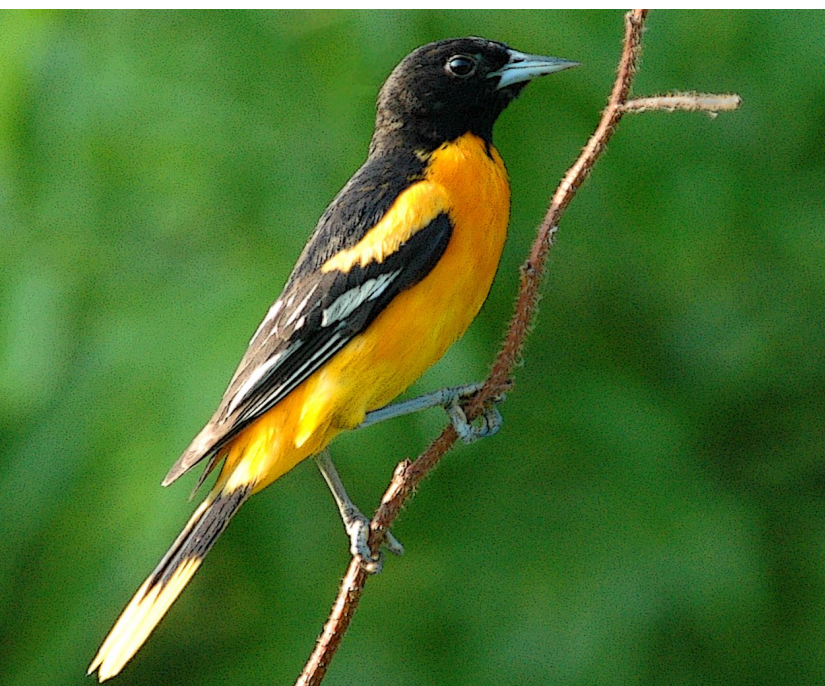
The reserve's natural landscape is a common possession set aside for its ecological value and to provide unprecedented opportunities in ecological and cultural research, education, and passive recreation. Our work will be a model for others.

A Natural Investment

A Natural Investment is *rare's* campaign. Our goal is \$17 million - needed to preserve the 900+acre nature reserve, intact and in perpetuity. To date, over \$12 million has already been raised from over 1500 donors giving gifts of all sizes. However you contribute, your support as a donor helps us reach our goals and shows others how important the environment is to our community.

rare Offerings

There are a number of ways to connect with *rare*, such as hiking our trails, participating in children's environmental education programs, partaking in nature programs, joining the community gardens or conducting a research study. Contact us to learn more today!



Baltimore Oriole. Photography by N. Lightfoot

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Keith Ainsworth, Chair of the Board; Electrical Engineer; retired CEO, COM DEV International

Gerald Achtymichuk, Family Physician

Paul Koch, Marketing & Management Consultant; Civic Entrepreneur

Peter Krause, President, Krause Corporate Solutions

Brian McGee, Chartered Accountant; Partner, Zeifman & Company LLP

Angela Tsementzis, Architect; B.E.S. BArch, OAA, LEED AP

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EAC)

Chris Dalton, Avocational Archaeologist, Licensed by the Province of Ontario

Doug Larson, Professor Emeritus, College of Biological Sciences, University of Guelph

John MacDonald, Archaeologist

Alan Morgan, Professor Emeritus, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Waterloo

Stephen Murphy, Professor and Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies, Environment and Resource Studies, University of Waterloo

Mark Pomeroy, Fisheries Biologist, Stantec Consulting Ltd.

Bill Wilson, retired Teacher; Naturalist; Bird Monitoring Coordinator, **rare** Charitable Research Reserve

Brett Woodman, Terrestrial and Wetland Biologist, Natural Resource Solutions Inc.

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Michael Barnstijn, retired Partner, RIM; Philanthropist; Musagetes Foundation

David Buckland, Founder, Cape Farewell www.capefarewell.com; Director of Art from a Changing Arctic

Ed Burtynsky, Photographer; Subject of award-winning documentary, *Manufactured Landscapes*

Severn Cullis-Suzuki, Environmental Activist; Speaker; Television host; Author

Ron Dembo, Founder, Zerofootprint www.zerofootprint.net

Louise MacCallum, retired Software Engineer; Philanthropist; Musagetes Foundation

R. Murray Schafer, Composer; Educator; Environmentalist

Sheila O'Donovan, Founder, Lisaard House

Jane Urquhart, Author

Morden Yolles, Multi-award-winning Structural Engineer; Restaurateur; Photographer

ARCHAEOLOGY COMMITTEE

Chris Dalton (See previous)

John MacDonald (See previous)

EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EDAC)

Jason Bracey, Teacher, Department Head of Geography, Southwood Secondary School

Louise Dawe, retired Teacher; Community volunteer

Christopher Giesler, Teacher, Southwood Secondary School

RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC)

Doug Larson (See previous)

Stephen Murphy (See previous)

CAMPAIGN AND COMMUNITY CABINET

Keith Ainsworth (See previous)

Sheila Ainsworth, Chair, Lisaard House

John K. Bell, Chairman, The Onbelay Group

Greg Buzbuzian, Owner, Knar Jewellery

Stewart Campbell, BlackTree Capital

John English, Director, Bill Graham Centre for Contemporary International History, Trinity College/Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto

Valerie Hall, President, Stonefields Management Inc.

Ahmad Hammoud, Owner, Salon Butterfly

Jackie Hatherly-Martin, Chartered Accountant, HM Advisors

Keith Martin, Chartered Accountant, HM Advisors

Hulene Montgomery, retired; Consultant to philanthropic and community organizations; Community volunteer

Douglas McMullen, retired; Community volunteer

David Mitten, Executive Director, Siding and Window Dealers Association of Canada

Simon Poladian, Owner, Eagle Towing Equipment

Joy Roberts, retired; Consultant; Community volunteer

Irene Schmidt-Adeney, Writer, Ayr News

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

VOLUNTEER AND CONSULTING ADVISORS

Bob Burt, Writer-in-residence

Ken Dance President, Dance Environmental Inc.

Joy Roberts (See previous)

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Gerrit Kamminga, Educator

Carleigh Pope, Research Assistant and Outreach Intern

Jenna Quinn, Research Coordinator

Dan Radoslav, Property Maintenance and Gardens Coordinator

Lora Woolner, Community Development Officer