



Since 1995

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2011

President's Message

The fall has arrived and our one telemetry osprey departed for warmer climes on August 7th. She was detected at the upper portion of South America as of October 9. This is encouraging as the expanse of water between San Juan and South America is where the other bird disappeared. It is amazing to consider the distance they travel and one can only imagine the number of hazards that could befall them on their journey.

There were a couple of rescue issues this summer; the most memorable taking place in Amhurstview, near Kingston. A mother Osprey with three chicks was killed from fireworks fired at the nest by a group of youths. I was called by a very distraught couple trying to help. They were unable to get help from anyone; county, MNR or even the hydro. The carcass of the dead bird was still in the nest and posed a threat to the chicks. The father was feeding the birds so they were surviving. I spoke with Sue Meaks from Sandy Pines who was willing to remove the carcass if there was some way to get to it. The problem arose because it happened to be a holiday long weekend and it seemed that no one in Amhurstview had a cherry picker. The mayor got involved and suggested that because the bird was dead there was no urgency. What he did not realize was that lice will develop on the carcass which will eventually infest the chicks and kill them. A nasty comment regarding bureaucrats and threats of going to the local paper caused some action. Having worked for the hydro at one time the Mayor pulled some strings, got a cherry picker and Sue Meaks removed the carcass. I checked last week and all was well with the nest and all of the birds. The father and the three chicks proceeded to head off for their migration.

We have a new addition to the executive. Laura Dunford has graciously agreed to take on the position as Newsletter Editor. Welcome aboard.

The Lindsay Fall Fair was very uneventful this year and actually cost us \$20 after all expenses. The executive have decided that it is not worth the effort. If anyone has a great idea for fundraising please let one of the executive know so we can consider it.

Everyone please have a safe fall and winter and let us know if you wish to get involved with some of the winter nest and platform projects. I believe all of the birds have gone by now so it is just monitoring our South American bird and waiting for the migration return.

Jim Brown,

President, Friends of the Osprey

General Information

Winter Works:

Members are still sending in thoughts for the next nesting sites that may require work this coming winter. The list will be reviewed and prioritized at the December/January meeting. If you have some thoughts on the subject, please send them to Jim Chappel or any of the Executive of the Friends of the Osprey (FOTO).

Jim Chappel,

Past-President, Friends of the Osprey

Annual Draw:

Our annual draw was held at the Lindsay Fair in September. The winners are:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) Bonnie McComb, Omemee | 2) Helen Farrell, Toronto |
| 3) Martina Stephen, Peterborough | 4) Rob Millar, Lindsay |
| 5) Leona Lewis, Omemee | 6) Alex Murphy, Lindsay |

Osprey Activity:

In the first week of April the Osprey returned to County Road 24. We had a concern; what will they do when they see the bridge construction in progress at their nesting platform?

The male was the first back on April 3. He took no notice of the construction other than to poop on the foreman's truck and then carried on with nest building with his partner. The construction workers enjoyed the Osprey's constant over viewing of their work.

We visited them often throughout the summer and they were doing very well. We believe they fledged three young which is as good as it can get.

Viewing Binocular:

We are also pleased to let you know that our coin operated viewing binocular has been moved from storage to Island Park Conservation Area at Orangeville, where it will be put to good use and hopefully make us some money.

Simon Connell,

Fundraising and Public Relations Coordinator, Friends of the Osprey

Friends of the Osprey Executives

President: Jim Brown

Vice-President: Carol Roberts

Past-President: Jim Chappel

Treasurer and Membership

Director: Grant King

Secretary: Dave Robertson

Website Coordinator: Mary Sullivan

Fundraising and Public Relations

Coordinator: Simon Connell

Telemetry: Greg Chappel

Sir Sandford Fleming College

Liaison: Anne Downey

Newsletter Editor: Laura Dunford

Directors: Ed Lawson, Phil Puxley and Rob Millar

Club Address:

P.O.Box 25

Lindsay, Ontario

K9V 4R8

Email:

friendsoftheosprey@gmail.com

Visit the Friends of the Osprey

Website at:

www.friendsoftheosprey.org



Viewing Binocular Update

Simon got the scope out of storage at Emily park and along with Dave we took it to the Island Lake Conservation Area in Orangeville. The scope has been in storage for a while and needs some maintenance. I have obtained a new battery holder to replace the old one that was corroded. I have to test the servo motor for the shutter as it seemed to be stuck. I will be working with Sandy Camplin at the Conservation Area and return there to test it soon. Hopefully it will work and be ready to go for the spring.

Rob Millar

Director, Friends of the Osprey



Membership Report

The FOTO has gained 16 registered members in the past year. As of October 31st, 2011, the group had 174 registered members which has increased from the total number 158 at this approximate time last year.

There has been an observed increased in the portion of members who have supplied us with their email addresses. The FOTO now has 97 (56% of) members on its email distribution list. This of course enables electronic communication saving paper and dollars spent on postage. If you have not already supplied your email, please do so by contact me at antler71@gmail.com. Thank you in advance. Renewal notices have been mailed to our registered members who are past due payment of their \$20.00 membership fee. The prompt return of these renewals and any additional donations are very much appreciated. Charitable donation receipts will be distributed to all those who provide monetary contributions.

Financial Report

The sales and net return associated with draw tickets was not as high this year compared to last year. After deducting the expenses of the Lindsay Exhibition and printing, our profits were \$1,158 (last year saw \$1,644 in profit).

The FOTO's bank balance of \$4,825, as of October 31st, 2011 is significantly lower than \$9,609 which was our bank balance last year at this approximate time. The decline in available funds can be attributed to the final payment that was put towards the telemetry project. A total of \$5,145 was allocated to this purpose.

Grant King,

Treasurer, Friends of the Osprey

Grant King,

Membership Director, Friends of the Osprey