

The Giant's Rib

Dedicated to increasing awareness and protection of the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve

Stan Nowak, Editor
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The Giant's Rib presents The Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series

The Giant's Rib Discovery Centre proudly announces the next presentation of the second annual Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series. This series, named in honour of the former General Manager of the Hamilton Conservation Authority, is dedicated to promoting the Niagara Escarpment as an internationally-recognized World Biosphere Reserve, as well as being a truly unique topographic feature of our natural and cultural heritage.

next Presentation: Sunday, April 19:

Keeping The Edge: Sustainability and the Future of Ontario's Niagara Escarpment with Chris McLaughlin, CEO, Niagara Escarpment Foundation

Chris McLaughlin is currently the CEO of the Niagara Escarpment Foundation (NEF) and is the former Executive Director of the Coalition of the Niagara Escarpment (CONE). Chris' role with the NEF is to undertake a fundraising campaign to finance significant new water research and educational programming. He will establish the Niagara Escarpment Water Network to facilitate interaction among science and policy professionals, and Escarpment Kids to introduce grade school children to the idea of sustainability using the Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Reserve as a model and teaching tool. Chris is also conducting doctoral research at McMaster University testing a decision-making model for resource managers dealing with the uncertainties in the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem.

He recently served six years on the Water Management and Environmental Impact Advisory Board of the Hamilton Conservation Authority, four years on the Board of the Hamilton Public Library, and currently sits on the Board of Governors of the Hamilton Future Fund.

Upcoming Presentation

Sunday, June 7: THE INSECTS OF ONTARIO – with emphasis on the Dundas Valley
MARVIN GUNDERMAN (THE BUG MAN) Biology Department, McMaster University

All presentations will be held at the Dundas Valley Trail Centre, Dundas Valley Conservation Area, 650 Governor's Road, Dundas, starting at 2:00 p.m. **Please note the new admission fees:** Park entrance fee is now **\$3.00 per person**, or a maximum **\$6.00 per car**.
No admission fee for children under 12.
All presentations will be held Sunday afternoons of the noted date starting at 2:00 p.m.
There is no charge for the lectures, but donations are welcome and appreciated.
For further information: Kenneth Hall (kenjoan75@sympatico.ca), Stan Nowak (basil.cottage@sympatico.ca).
Everyone is welcome - we look forward to seeing you !!

The Giant's Rib presents Art and Photography of the Heritage of the Niagara Escarpment

Celebrating 'the art' of the natural and cultural heritage of the Niagara Escarpment featuring a new local artist every month at the Dundas Valley Trail Centre, Dundas Valley Conservation Area, 650 Governor's Road, Dundas. Saturdays and Sundays only from 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Please note new admission fees: Park entrance fee is now **\$3.00 per person**, or a maximum **\$6.00 per car**.
No admission fee for children under 12.

For the Month of april:
The Dundas Valley and Beyond - William Littlewood

"Landscape and nature photography's importance lies in the ability of this fine art form to bring to the public the splendor of Earth's fragile environments and tenuous natural life. Loss of habitat and flora and fauna impoverishes the human spirit. One day we may have only images of much of our natural heritage. May our spirits always be enriched by Nature and by the timeless photographic images of Her landscapes and life forms." - William Littlewood

William Littlewood was born in Brighton, England in 1943. He is a well known and respected Landscape / Nature photographer and writer, located in Ancaster, Ontario, Canada. Since 2003, William's images and stories / articles have been published frequently in Nature Photographer, a quarterly magazine published in Maine. Since 2007 he has been an associate editor of the publication. William's images have been used in the products and communication materials of organizations such as The Nature Conservancy of Canada and the Friends of Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada.

Upcoming Exhibitions

May: NATIVE WILDFLOWERS - DON CORBY
June: LOCAL LANDSCAPES - DOUGLAS BROWN

Waterfalls along the Niagara Escarpment by Joseph Hollick

Heritage Falls, also known as Griffin Falls, is located in the Ancaster / Mineral Springs section of Hamilton on Hamilton Conservation Authority's land on the trails behind the Griffin House. To reach this waterfall, park in the HCA parking lot at the Hermitage site at the corner of Sulphur Springs Rd. and Mineral Springs Rd. A nominal fee is charged for this. Then follow the Homestead Trail at the far end of the parking lot to Heritage Falls.

Heritage Falls is located on a tributary of the Sulphur Creek and is considered a washboard classical cascade type waterfall. As this waterfall does dry up often, the best time to view this falls is after a heavy rainfall or during the winter snow melt.

Its height is 5 m (16 ft.) and its width can be 3 m (10 ft.) at heavy flows.
Heritage Falls was first identified in the 2000 book "Waterfalls The Niagara Escarpment" by Jerry and Mikal Lawton.

The photo below shows Heritage Falls in March 2009 after a day of heavy rains.



Attention Teachers! A new column for all educators

Teacher's Corner

If you are teaching the Grade 4, Science "Rocks and Minerals" Unit you might be interested in bringing your class to the Dundas Valley Conservation Area to study the different kinds of rocks and fossils that are found in the Valley.

For more information regarding reservations and costs, contact **BETH STORMONT**, Educational Coordinator for the Hamilton Conservation Authority's Educational Program.
Address: P.O. Box 7090, 838 Mineral Springs Rd., Ancaster ON. 49G 3L3
Phone: 905-627-1233 Fax: 905-627-9722
E-mail: dvalley@conservationhamilton.ca
Website: www.conservationhamilton.ca

Teacher's Kit Available

The Giant's Rib is able to provide teachers of Grade 4 with a guide and resource package on "ROCKS AND MINERALS" based on the Ontario Science and Technology Curriculum.
There will be no costs to schools or teachers because this project is sponsored by TD FRIENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION.

If you are interested or know teachers who would be interested in receiving this package, please contact Ken Hall at 905-627-1320.

Join the Friends of the Giant's Rib

Your assistance would be welcome in helping the **Giant's Rib Discovery Centre** to increase awareness and protection of the **Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve**; or you may wish only to be kept informed of upcoming GRDC activities and events.

We hope to hear from you!

For more information, please contact: Ken Hall 905-627-1320 Gord Perrault 905-648-8041

Please consider the environment.
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