

The Giant's Rib

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

Stan Nowak, Editor

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Giant's Rib Discovery Centre Board of Directors - 2009

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The Giant's Rib Discovery Centre presents the Third Annual

Giant's Rib Summer Solstice



Sunset on the escarpment as seen at Summer Solstice 2008

Thursday, June 18, 2009

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Centre

Hamilton

Tickets \$50.00 each (tax receipt available)

Parks Canada Discovery

57 Guise Street East,

A social evening of fun and enjoyment with friends and associates celebrating the 'Giant's Rib' while experiencing a magnificent sunset over the Hamilton Bay and the Niagara Escarpment to welcome the summer!

You are cordially invited to a very special occasion featuring a wine and cheese reception, silent auction, musical entertainment and the grand unveiling of the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Wall at 7:30 that evening.

Wine for this event will be provided through the Vineland Estates Winery. This winery has won many international awards for its wine. Of particular note are its Dry Riesling, Cabernet Merlot, Vidal Icewine and Sauvignon Blanc. The picturesque Vineland Estates Winery is located in Vineland on the Bench of the Niagara Escarpment. The landmark Stone Tower stands proudly over a former Mennonite Homestead that dates back to the 1840's. Included in the cluster of carefully restored buildings is a Century Barn and a stone Carriage House.

Cheese connoisseur, Mickey McGuire, of the Mickey McGuire Cheese Shop in Dundas will be offering samples of his cheeses at the Summer Solstice. His shop presently offers over 400 varieties of cheese, including Italian Cheese matured in grape skins, Tasmanian Blue Cheese, Basque Sheep Cheese, Guinness Cheddar and Banon, made with peppers and wrapped in chestnut leaves.

This Spring our musical entertainment will be provided by the Avalon Music Academy of Dundas, featuring Steve Parton.

Proceeds raised from this event will further the efforts of the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre to promote public awareness of the Niagara Escarpment - The Giant's Rib - and its relevance as an internationally-recognized World Biosphere Reserve.



For further information, or to purchase tickets for this event, please contact any of the Directors of the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre listed below.

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We look forward to seeing you there!

The Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series

Thanks to all who have attended and supported our events! The Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series returns in the fall with an exciting new program.

The Giants 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.
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 June:

Local Landscapes - Douglas Brown

Douglas Brown studied drawing and painting under the guidance of Marion Mattice at the Conservatory of Music and Art, while he was still a child. As an adult he studied art with Katherine Gibbon at the Dundas Valley School of Art, including lessons working in plein air. Douglas enjoys working with acrylics. His work, has been sold at the Dundas Valley School of Art's annual auction, at the Sunrise Gallery and other venues. His paintings have been displayed in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Douglas is retired from teaching after 33 years in the classroom, which gives him time for what he describes as 'a great hobby'. Douglas states, "I enjoy landscape painting and the pleasure of simply being outside along the Niagara Escarpment. Its variety of colours and trees create interesting landscapes."

Waterfalls along the Niagara Escarpment by Joseph Hollick

Lower Tews Falls has been known for over a century as there is a vintage postcard dated 1906 showing it, however it was referred to as Hopkins Ravine at that time. The reason for this name is that the Hopkins family owned the land in 1906. About 1910 the Tews family acquired the property and now this small, but beautiful, waterfall is known as Lower Tews Falls.

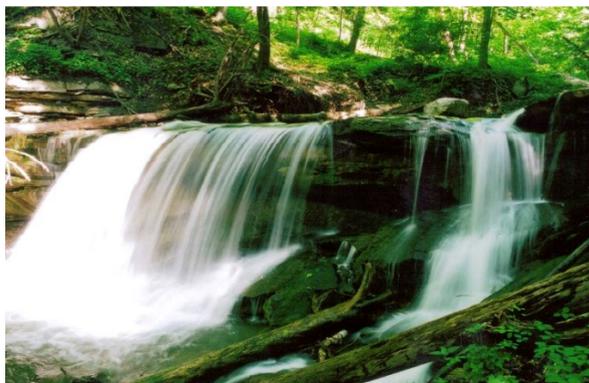
Lower Tews Falls is a "Twin Curtain" waterfall with a total height of 3.7 metres (12 ft.) and a crest width of 6.7 m (22 ft.). It is located on Logie's Creek downstream of Tews Falls and just before it joins with Spencer Creek. The waterfall today looks similar as was depicted in the 1906 postcard however only one half of the twin waterfall is shown in the vintage postcard.

To reach Lower Tews Falls, the easiest way is to park on the east shoulder of Woodley Lane just off King St. (on the way to the Dundas Golf Club). Then walk along the shoulder of King St. under the railway bridge and up the former driveway to the former Dundas railway station. The third trail on the left side (past where the station used to be located) will take you to Lower Tews Falls without having to cross any creek. This waterfall is not widely known as it used to be difficult to reach it, however this trail is becoming well worn making access much easier.

The two photos show Lower Tews Falls, first as it was in 1906, and then today.



Hopkins Ravine, 1906



Lower Tews Falls, present day.

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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But please feel free to share this Newsletter electronically with others.