

The Giant's Rib

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

Stan Nowak, Editor
December 2010

www.giantsrib.ca
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From the Annual General Meeting of the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre, October 27, 2010...

The President's Report

President Ken Hall's remarks regarding directions for the GRDC in 2011:

"It is my desire that the GRDC will continue with the established programs of:

- Distributing information and materials to the general public at the Trail Centre;
- Permitting artists and photographers to show their work at the Trail Centre;
- Offering the Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series at the former Parks Canada Discovery Centre;
- Distributing Rocks and Mineral Curriculum Manuals to Grade 4 teachers;
- Reaching out to the public through our newsletter and web-site;
- Hosting an annual fundraiser event.

"The new directions that I would like the GRDC to pursue are:

- To investigate thoroughly the possibilities of opening a second site for the GRDC;
- To bring the Niagara Escarpment Recognition Program to the stage where the first awards would be given in 2011;
- To establish a partnership with the Hamilton Naturalist Club where we could become involved in their Head-of-the-Lake Land Trust Program particularly where it relates to the Niagara Escarpment;
- To begin a series of field trips related to the Niagara Escarpment for our Friends of the Giant's Rib;
- To investigate the possibility of beginning an annual Waterfalls of Hamilton Festival.

"I believe that we can reach these goals by utilizing the talents of the strong Board what we have and by seeking additional members who can assist us in providing leadership in these new directions".

"I want to thank all of you for donating your time and efforts to stimulate the growth of the GRDC and helping to make it a better organization to promote and protect the Niagara Escarpment as a World Biosphere Reserve".

Ken also expressed his appreciation to outgoing Board Members Leo **DeLoyde**, **Clive Freeman**, **Alex Kormarinski**, **Don Pfeffer** and **Barbara Rusnak** for all their contributions to the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre and welcomed new Board Members **Mike McCallion** and **Danya Scime** to the Giant's Rib team.

The Giant's Rib presents

The Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series

The Giant's Rib Discovery Centre announces the return of winter edition of this year's annual Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series, starting in February 2011.

Details will follow in upcoming newsletters.

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

The Winter 2011 Schedule

February 6, 2011 Healthy Hamilton's Watershed Action Plan

Jamie Overy, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program



March 6, 2011 Battles Along the Niagara Escarpment during the War of 1812

James E. Elliott – Author of Award Winning “Strange Fatality, The Battle of Stoney Creek, 1813”

April 10, 2011 The Ugly but Beautiful Turkey Vultures of the Niagara Escarpment

Christopher Hamilton, Conservation Hamilton



May 15, 2011 Discovering the Spring Wildflowers in Hamilton's Natural Areas

Dean Gugler, Hamilton Naturalists' Club

Please note that presentations will continue to be held on Sunday afternoons, from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., at the former Parks Canada Discovery Centre on 57 Discovery Drive, Hamilton, now administered by the Hamilton Waterfront Trust.

Parking is free, but there is an admission charge of a toonie (\$2.00) for the presentation.

For further information:

Kenneth Hall (kenjoan75@sympatico.ca), Stan Nowak (basil.cottage@sympatico.ca).

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 different local artist every month at the Dundas Valley Trail Centre, Dundas Valley Conservation Area, 650 Governor's Road, Dundas.

Saturdays and Sundays only from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Please note that the Park entrance fee is now \$4.00 per person (walk-in or bicycle), or \$7.00 per car. There is still no admission fee for children under 12.

There is no admission fee to view the exhibit, but donations are gratefully accepted.

For further information: Artistic Director Nancy Clarke Hauser

nancyclarkehauser@gmail.com

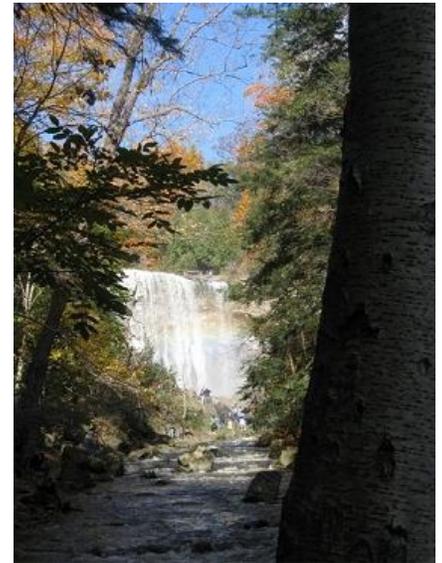
For the Month of January 2011:



Featuring photography by Hamilton resident **Michael Babyn**, a first time exhibitor.

Michael has formatted his extensive recent works into DVD slide shows, accompanied by musical sound tracts. Michael has captured his images using a an 8 mp "Canon" Digital Camera. Visitors to the Trail Centre Exhibition Hall Area will encounter (2) separate viewing stations which will run visual

notebooks of various Niagara Escarpment Trails that Michael has documented from his unique artistic perspective, visiting both familiar and unfamiliar sights, through the lens of his perspective.



Webster's Falls

Saturdays and Sundays 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

presented at the Dundas Valley Trail Centre, Dundas Valley Conservation Area

Teacher's Corner

by Ken Hall

If you haven't done so already, plan a class trip to **Conservation Halton's Mountsberg Raptor Centre**. Your class can participate in the Raptor Encounters Program that allows your students to have unforgettable close encounters with some of Ontario's most stunning birds of prey, hawks, eagles, owls, vultures, and falcons. Your students will get a behind-the-scenes peak at feeding, health care, training, socialization plus a tour of the raptor facility.

Students will also have the opportunity to pull on a glove and pose for a picture with one of the resident raptors.

Call Mountsberg at 905 854 2276 to book your trip

If you know teachers or anyone else who would be interested in this information, please contact Ken Hall at 905-627-1320 or at kenjoan75@sympatico.ca

Please note that past items from 'Teacher's Corner' are available at www.giantsrib.ca in the Newsletters section.

Waterfalls along the Niagara Escarpment

by Joseph Hollick

Kilbride Falls is located at the southern end of the community of Kilbride in the City of Burlington on the east side of Cedar Springs Road.

Kilbride Falls is considered a classic cascade type falls. Its height is approximately 3m (10 ft.) and its width varies from 2m (7 ft.) to 3m (10 ft.). Kilbride Falls is located on a branch of the Bronte Creek and has year round flow.



When the leaves are off the trees this waterfall is visible from Cedar Spring Road as you drive northbound into Kilbride. To get a closer view you can park on the shoulder where it widens out on the slight hill into Kilbride, then climb down the embankment to the creek and follow it upstream to the falls. There is no trail (yet) to this falls, thus be careful climbing down and following the creek to the falls. Also be careful on the roadway as there are some curves on the roadway and vehicles may not be expecting you.



Happy Holidays

*From all of us at the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre,
we wish you and yours the very best of this Holiday Season!
May all the fortunes and blessings of the New Year be upon you all in
2011!*



Giant's Rib Discovery Centre's Board of Directors for 2011

William Edwards Web-Site Administrator
Kenneth Hall President, Co-ordinator, Friends of the Giant's Rib,
Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series, & Research
Nancy Clarke Hauser Arts Program Co-ordinator, Trail Centre Manager
Joseph Hollick Secretary & Co-ordinator, Niagara Escarpment Waterfalls Research,
Site and Building Development
Ernie Kuechmeister Recognition Program Co-ordinator
Jack Lee Chair, Education Committee & Liaison Coordinator with Affiliated Groups
Dr. John MacRae Treasurer, Director of Audio-Visual Presentations
Mike McCallion Co-ordinator of Funding Applications
Stan Nowak Publicity and Communications Director
Danya Scime Co-ordinator of Special Events

Join the Friends of the Giant's Rib

DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

The Executive of the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre is looking for volunteers who wish to assume leadership roles with an organization that strives to educate the public on the need to preserve our Niagara Escarpment as a World Biosphere Reserve.

If you are such a person, please contact **Ken Hall** at **905-627-1320** or at kenjoan75@sympatico.ca

You will learn more about the goals and objectives of the Giant's Rib and also have the opportunity to express what skills and talents you could offer to help the organization achieve its present undertakings and to move forward in new directions.

We hope to hear from you!

***Please consider the environment.
Don't print this Newsletter unless you really need to.
But please feel free to share your newsletter with others via e-mail.***