

The Giant's Rib

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

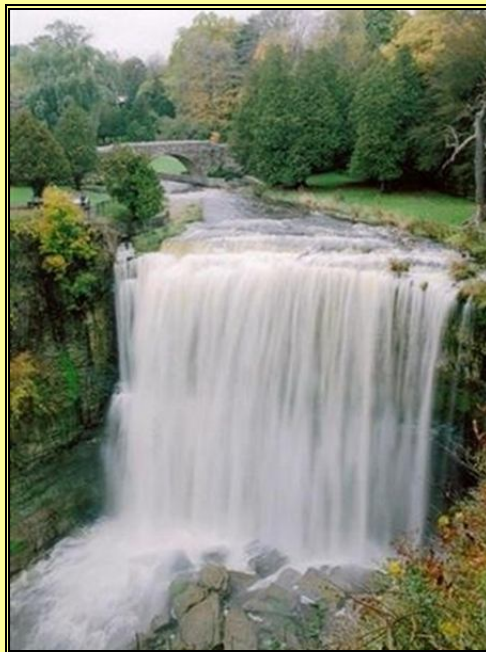
Stan Nowak, Editor
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www.giantsrib.ca
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The Giant's Rib Discovery Centre is now on Facebook!

Visit our website and look for the link:  or use the link location:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Giants-Rib-Discovery-Centre/173267026030262?v=wall>
to get the latest news and updates!

Welcome to 2011!



*May the stars shine upon you all,
May the flowers fill your heart with beauty,
May hope forever wipe away your tears,
And above all,
May this New Year be wonderful!*

From all of us with the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre, we wish you all a

Happy New Year!

The Giant's Rib presents:

The Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series

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

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, February 6, 2011

Healthy Hamilton's Watershed Action Plan

with Jaime Overy and Sheila O'Neal, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program



**Hamilton-Halton
Watershed Stewardship Program**

Jaime Overy is a Project Planner within the Planning and Engineering Department of the Hamilton Conservation Authority. She has been with the HCA for over five years, joining them as a Watershed Stewardship Technician, but is now co-ordinating the Healthy Hamilton Watersheds Action Plan – an initiative to establish a collaborative effort among all of the agencies and organizations in Hamilton to work toward improving and preserving the local natural environment. Jaime also represents the Hamilton Conservation Authority on a number of other initiatives including: ReLeaf Hamilton, the Waterfalls of Hamilton Inventory, Children's Water Festival and the Sharing Experiences workshop series.

She is a graduate of Trent University in Geography and has previously worked for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment in similar roles.

Jaime is passionate about helping people and communities develop and utilize tools for sustainability as she continues to focus her career and efforts toward that goal.

For the past 19 years, **Sheila O'Neal** has been employed in the field of conservation. Since 2006, she has served as the Manager of the Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program of the Hamilton and Halton Conservation Authorities.

Previously, Sheila worked as a Watershed Stewardship Technician, meeting with watershed landowners on their properties, providing recommendations for land management practices to improve water quality and habitat. Prior to that, she worked as a Landowner Contact/Restoration Technician for Carolinian Canada, working with landowners in Beverly Swamp, Sassafras Woods and along the Grimsby-Winona Escarpment. A long-time member of the Hamilton Naturalists' Club and Bay Area Restoration Council, she graduated from Sir Sandford Fleming College as a Fish and Wildlife Technician.

Sheila is passionate about the natural environment and educating landowners on how effective stewardship practices can lighten their impact on the land.



Upcoming Presentation: Sunday, March 6, 2011



Battles Along the Niagara Escarpment during the War of 1812

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

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).

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 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 Michael Babyn



Michael Babyn, a Hamilton resident and a first-time exhibitor, has formatted his extensive recent works into DVD slide shows, accompanied by musical sound tracts. Michael has captured his images using an 8 mm "Canon" Digital Camera.

Visitors to the Trail Centre Exhibition Hall Area will encounter two 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

Teachers' Corner

by Ken Hall

Joe Hollick is the GRDC's Waterfalls of the Niagara Escarpment Research Coordinator. He has prepared an audio-visual show of the Waterfalls of Hamilton which is suitable for classroom presentation at any Grade level where water, watersheds or the Niagara Escarpment is being studied.

Contact Joe at 905-628-3132 or joehollick@sympatico.ca to arrange a presentation for your class.

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 "Teachers' Corner" are available at www.giantsrib.ca in the Newsletters section.

Waterfalls along the Niagara Escarpment

by Joseph Hollick

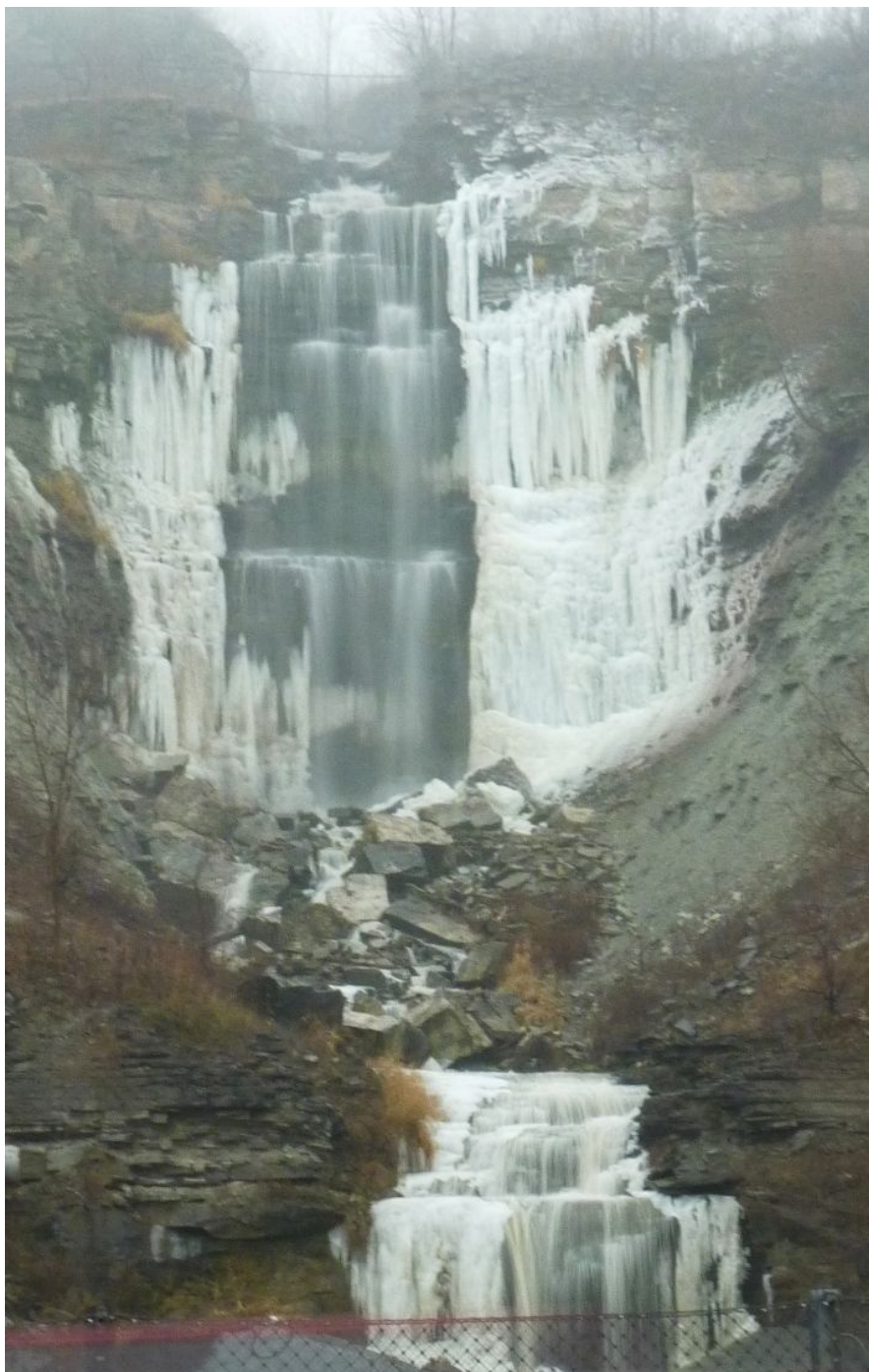
Lower Princess Falls, also known as Princess Falls or Lower Lang's Falls is the second of three waterfalls located on Lang's Creek, which is a Chedoke tributary. This waterfall is located in west Hamilton beside Highway 403 (or the Chedoke Expressway).

Lower Princess Falls consists of several plunge and cascades sections, thus is considered a Complex Ribbon Plunge and Cascade type falls. The crest of this waterfall originates from culvert pipes running under the Chedoke Radial Trail and the bottom terminates into a large concrete box culvert which runs under the highway. The total height is 130 ft. or 39 m. Its crest width is 10 ft. or 3 m however it can widen out substantially more lower down during heavy rainfalls. Lower Princess Falls is considered the second highest waterfall in Hamilton after Tews Falls.

Lower Princess Falls can be viewed from Highway 403 as you drive up the Niagara Escarpment, thus this waterfall is considered the

most viewed falls in Hamilton even though it is dry about half of the time.

Yes, sadly Lower Princess Falls does dry up often and has flow only after rainfalls and after the winter snow melt. Another sad point of this waterfall is that there is no safe location on Highway 403 to stop and photograph it!





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

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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.

Come on and join our Team! 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.