

The Giant's Rib

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

Stan Nowak, Editor
June 2012

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:  Login with Facebook for all the latest news and updates.



Giant's Rib
DISCOVERY
Centre

SUMMER SOLSTICE

Celebration & Fundraiser

FEATURING LIVE MUSIC BY

Judy and the Noteworthyies

JOIN US FOR
Wine & Cheese
A Silent Auction with a flair of Paris
A market style bruschetta table and
made to order French crêpes

Thursday, June 21st

THE ATRIUM, ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
680 PLAINS ROAD WEST, BURLINGTON • 6:00 TO 11:00PM
Tickets \$50 • tickets@giantsrib.ca

The Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series

This series, proudly sponsored by the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre, is named in honour of the former General Manager of the Hamilton Conservation Authority and 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.

Final Presentation of this Season: Sunday, June 10th

Escarpment Parks and Open Spaces: Effective Management Planning

with SUSAN COOPER - Natural Heritage Advisor, Land Use and Planning Department, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources



Susan Cooper has had many adventures in New Zealand and Australia while developing conservation strategies with the respective governments. As a Partnership and Liaison Advisor, Susan coordinates the Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System on behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Susan has been volunteering with community organizations for the last 15 years. She has served as a Board Director for the Canadian Environmental Defense Fund, the Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre, the Peterborough YWCA, and the Willow

Breast Cancer Support Centre. Susan has also been a member of the Otonabee Conservation Foundation since 2002 and has been chairing the Board for the last 2 years.

This presentation will introduce the **Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System (NEPOSS)** and the inspiring agencies and individuals that work very hard to protect these natural spaces.

To protect natural attractions and support recreational activities, agencies are responsible for developing management plans for each of their parks. The management planning process involves natural feature identification and community consultation to guide appropriate infrastructure development to support sustainable tourism.



The parks and open spaces within the System contribute to the protection of the Escarpment's natural and cultural features, by providing sustainable outdoor recreation and offering natural heritage appreciation opportunities.

The Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series

The Complete 2011 – 2012 Program

- October 23 **The Wonders of Long Point, One of Canada's World Biosphere Reserves**
STUART MACKENZIE – Land Bird Program Coordinator for the Long Point Bird Observatory
- November 13 **Jon's Journey - Experiences in Exploring the Natural Areas of Hamilton**
JON WELLS – Award-Winning Reporter for the Hamilton Spectator
- December 4 **Creating Ecological Improvements within the Red Hill Valley since the Construction of the Red Hill Parkway**
JAMES ROCKWOOD – Environmental Coordinator, Public Works Department, City of Hamilton
- January 22 **The Formation of the Niagara Escarpment**
Professor NICK EYLES – Expert on glaciations and ice sheets
Author – Ontario Rocks, Canada Rocks
Advisor and participant with CBC's Geologic Journey and Host of Geologic Journey – World
- February 12 **Trails Along the Niagara Escarpment utilized in the War of 1812**
JOHN BRYDEN – former journalist for Hamilton Spectator, Globe and Mail and Toronto Star
Former MP, Historian, Author and Researcher
- March 18 **The Niagara Peninsula Hawk Watch**
MIKE STREET – Hamilton Naturalists' Club.
A local expert on hawk migrations
Developer and Hamilton-Wentworth Co-ordinator of ONTBIRDS
- April 29 **The Natural Treasures of Carolinian Canada**
LORRAINE JOHNSON –Editor / Author, City Farmer
Lecturer- York University
- May 13 **Climate Change, Impacts and Adaptive Strategies in the Established and Emerging Wine Regions of Ontario**
ANTHONY SHAW – Professor, Department of Geography, Brock University

June 10 **Escarpment Parks and Open Spaces: Effective Management Planning**
SUSAN COOPER - Natural Heritage Advisor, Land Use and Planning Department, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

Presentations will 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 \$3.00 for each of the presentations. Refreshments will be provided after each presentation, along with an opportunity to talk with our guest speaker!

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

Celebrates '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 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Park entrance fee is now \$9.00 per car, but walk in or bike in is FREE.

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

For further information: Arts Program Co-ordinator Kenneth Hall kenjoan75@sympatico.ca

For the Month of June 2012:

Landscape Rhythms

Featuring the artistic works of **JENNY ANGOLD**



Jenny Angold was born in the UK and only recently moved to Canada. She took a Fine Art degree course in England.

Her work is mainly concerned with the exploration of light, colour and textures, working in all media, sometimes even mixing them in one painting.

She enjoys walking, immersing herself in the changing light and moods of the Canadian landscape, sketching and taking photographs. However, the actual paintings are usually done in the studio to allow interplay between the materials, subject and remembered feelings trying to create something unique, rather than just a record of what is there.

This particular exhibition, titled **LANDSCAPE RHYTHMS**, is the most recent work of walks in and around the Niagara Escarpment in this particular area.



15 Mays Crescent, Waterdown, ON. L0R 2H4

E-mail: jennyangold@hotmail.co.uk

Saturdays and Sundays only

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Dundas Valley Trail Centre, Dundas Valley Conservation Area.

Upcoming Giant's Rib Events

Hike Series – SOLD OUT!

The hike scheduled for **Saturday, June 9th**, starting at **9:30 AM** from Rock Chapel to Borer's Falls with expert wilderness guide and naturalist **Kyle McLoughlin** has been sold out!

This will be a hike through our local Carolinian forest, one of the most bio-diverse ecosystems in the country! Participants will learn how certain trees shed their branches like a dog sheds hair and essentials about some of these trees in our own backyard that are older than the Sistine Chapel (pre-1481)!

Are you gonna be one of those left out?

Not to worry, there is another educational hike planned through the Dundas Valley Conservation Area on **Saturday, July 14th**! Details will be provided in the next Giant's Rib Newsletter!

Mark your calendars now and don't miss the next one!!

Remember to mark off **Thursday June 21st, 2012** on your calendar for our



Sixth Annual Giant's Rib Summer Solstice Fundraiser

At The Atrium at the Royal Botanical Gardens, 680 Plains Road West in Burlington!
Details are on the opening page of this Newsletter!



Mark your Calendars ~

SECRET GARDENS

An Annual Fundraiser for the Carnegie Gallery
19TH TOUR OF ARTISTIC GARDEN RETREATS

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2012

Carnegie GALLERY

10 King St. W. Dundas, ON L9H 1T7

905 627-4265

Waterfalls along the Niagara Escarpment

by Joseph Hollick

Upper Sydenham Falls (or Sydenham Falls) is located on the Sydenham Creek in the Flamborough section of Hamilton above Dundas west of Sydenham Road on private property.

Upper Sydenham Falls is considered a Complex Ribbon Falls with a height of 13.m (45 ft.) and a width of 5.5m (18 ft.). It is dry much of the year with flow primarily after rainfalls and during the winter snow melt.



To date we have found four different vintage postcards featuring this waterfall, with dates ranging from 1910 to 1936.

This waterfall was named Logie's Falls on three of the postcards and Logue's Falls on the fourth. We believe that the "Logue" name was a typing error as the Logie family owned the land around this waterfall a century ago. The vintage postcard illustrated on the left is dated 1936 (courtesy of Sylvia Wray of the Waterdown-East Flamborough Heritage Society) and uses the name of Logie's Falls.

This recent photo of Upper Sydenham Falls, shown at right, was taken in June 2010.

To visit Upper Sydenham Falls, follow Hwy #5 westward from Clappison's Corners (junction of Hwys #5 and #6) and turn left onto



Sydenham Road to Dundas.

At the bottom of the escarpment, turn right onto the first road, Livingstone Drive, and park on the side of the road in front of Cascades Park. At the top or north end of the park, the Bruce Trail leads to an old railway bridge, however follow the section of the Bruce Trail on the west side of Sydenham Creek and do not cross the bridge over the creek.

Follow this trail until you reach some stairs. At the top of the stairs, the Bruce Trail goes left; however, follow the well-worn trail to the right for about 200m to the Upper Sydenham Falls.

Happy Waterfalling!

Joe Hollick is the GRDC's Waterfalls of the Niagara Escarpment Research Coordinator and has developed a presentation of the Waterfalls of Hamilton.

If you're interested in having Joe present this to your group, please contact him at **905-628-3132** or at joehollick@sympatico.ca

Teachers' Corner

by Ken Hall



If your school is within, or in close proximity to the City of Hamilton, you might be interested in involving your class in this planting program.

High school classes are particularly needed, but any age class would enjoy this type of activity.

Volunteers Needed!

The Hamilton Naturalists' Club is expanding the Land's Inlet Nature Project which is a naturalization site in Hamilton's North End.

They will be planting thousands of native plants and would appreciate volunteer help on the following dates:

Sunday, June 10th from 2pm to 4pm

Tuesday, June 12th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Thursday, June 14th from 7pm to 8:30pm

Saturday, June 16th from 10am to 12 Noon
(if needed)



Lands Inlet is located at Simcoe and Wellington, west of the tracks. Gloves and water provided. If you have a trowel, please bring it along, otherwise we'll have the equipment.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Jen at 905-524-3339 or at land@hamiltonnature.org

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.

Rib Facts

The Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve

The Directors of the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre form a Committee of the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve. Their basic responsibilities are directed to helping ensure that the Niagara Escarpment continues to meet the three basic criteria of a biosphere reserve:

- Contribute to conservation of landscapes, ecosystems, species and genetic variation;
- Foster economic and human development which is socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable;
- Provide support for research, monitoring, education and information exchange related to local national and global issues of conservation and development.

The UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Designation



The biosphere is all of the land, water and atmosphere that support life.

A biosphere reserve is an international designation of recognition from UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) for an area in the world which is deemed to demonstrate a "balanced relationship between humans and the biosphere".

By this is meant that collaborative efforts among people in the designated area serve to promote the sustainability of local economies and communities, as well as the conservation of the terrestrial/or coastal ecosystems they are in.

Come Join the Friends of the Giant's Rib

Would you like 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 magnificent 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 and join our Team today! We hope to hear from you soon !



Your Giant's Rib Discovery Centre's Board of Directors for 2012

Executive Officers

Kenneth Hall, President John MacRae, Treasurer Joseph Hollick, Secretary

William Edwards	Web-Site Administrator
Kenneth Hall	Co-ordinator, Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series Co-ordinator, Arts Program
Chris Hamilton	Outreach Co-ordinator
Joseph Hollick	Co-ordinator of Niagara Escarpment Waterfalls Research Co-ordinator of Site and Building Development
Ernie Kuechmeister	Co-ordinator, Recognition Program
Dr. John MacRae	Director of Audio-Visual Presentations
Maya March	Field Trip Co-ordinator
Nancy Martin	Publicity and Communications Director
Stan Nowak	Newsletter Editor
Donna Quigley	New Direction's Co-ordinator
Danya Scime	Co-ordinator, Special Events

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Don't print this Newsletter
unless you really need to.***

***But, by all means, please feel free to share your newsletter
with others via e-mail.***