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TUNDRA SWANS IN FLIGHT

Dr. Scott Pitrie, Research Director of the Long Point Waterfowl and Wetlands Fund, spoke to us on Tuesday morning about their mission... "to protect Long Point as a Staging area for North American waterfowl, as they migrate north and south in their annual patterns.

Scott works with grad students and full time employees to monitor the migration data, dietary patterns and aquatic habits of waterfowl, and spoke specifically of the Satellite Tracking Project of Tundra Swans.

The population of this bird has increased dramatically since the 1950's, due to better nutrition, increased winter survival rates and improved reproduction. There are two Tundra Swan population groups, of which Scott and his crew are studying the 120,000 eastern coastal group. Satellites feed back information on migration flight paths, time spent in the Long Point Staging area, Arctic breeding grounds, and southern wintering grounds. The bottom line is they've determined that 52% of the lifetime of the Tundra Swan is spent in the staging areas, so it becomes critical to preserve the natural ecosystems to support the waterfowl's ongoing health and longevity.

Questions from the floor included how has global warming and the Inner Bay boat traffic impacted the birds? Scott's responded by stating that global warming has enhanced the swan population, due to lengthened reproductive windows of opportunity and improved nutrition sources. The boats negatively impact the birds' feeding habits, but they seem to persevere, as they need to eat to increase body fats and proteins as they prepare for migration flights.

Isn't nature fantastic...those birds don't need clocks, calendars or GPS, but they successfully reproduce, raise their young, and fly "home" beautifully every year!

YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENT LEAVES FOR BELGIUM

Kris Harrop, our Exchange Student left on Wednesday for his big adventure as an exchange student to Belgium. I chatted briefly with him, and he told me that this would only be his second time on a flight, never mind flying alone to a brave, new world! Oh, the joys of spreading your wings! We'll look forward to hearing from Kris in the months to come.



HARLEY HAPPENIN'S

Jeff reported that \$1170 was raised in ticket sales at the Jarvis Cornfest. He's planning on being at the Saturday race at Cayuga this weekend, and was looking for a helper. Let him know if you can help! Don't forget to contact Jeff for your "Retail Ticket Package" to put at your business location.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Canoe trip- Aug 2-13 Woodland Caribou Park
Jim and Marjorie Dawson

We celebrated our 25th year of wilderness canoe trips by flying to Woodland Caribou Park, which is a 6000 sq. kilometer wilderness park on the Ontario/ Manitoba border. There are no roads or park attendants in this park and the only way in is to walk a portage from one of a couple of access points or to fly in. Once there, you are completely on your own, the only way back is to paddle to the rendezvous point, in our case 200 km away.

The scenery is spectacular; it is very rocky and with very little soil so that the trees are fairly sparse and open areas of rock are common. Camping is quite different because the only flat place to put a tent is often on a bald rock so tent pegs are useless and you resort to holding up the tent with rocks. Thank goodness for sleeping pads which make sleeping at least possible! From a canoeing standpoint this is a flat-water trip. There are many lakes but few rivers and they are mainly broken up into pool and drop sections of flat water followed by picturesque waterfalls.

Portages are quite strenuous, just walking with an 85 LB pack or pack/canoe is aerobic but the fun begins when you are ankle deep in mud or reaching from rock to rock fording a creek. Small portages are often the toughest, a series of four 70 m portages on the Haggart River were some of the toughest portages we have taken. One started on steep slope at the lip of a waterfall and proceeded straight up sheer rock. The path proceeded on a steep side slope where the slope on the uphill side was above the knee and the path was barely 4 inches wide with a sharp drop to the boiling rapid on the downside! This

portage also had big steps with trees in awkward spots which required careful maneuvering. One of the many reasons to go on this type of trip is the wildlife. We had close encounters with two large moose with full racks, a beaver which uncharacteristically sat and waited for his picture to be taken, an otter we surprised at a portage and too many eagles, falcons and loons to mention.

We did have a visitor one night – we're not sure what it was but it was not a bear, which are noisy, smelly and are easily identified even in the pitch black by their snuffling sound. This was a large animal that walked softly and stealthily by our tent (once on the way to the water, once on the way back). With no footprints available on bare rock to verify the animal, we don't know for sure what it was but I think it was a Lynx! We also saw a number of rock paintings depicting caribou, canoes and mythical figures.

There is nothing in the world like paddling down a pristine shore watching eagles soar, loons fishing, moose busily munching on water plants and realising that you are an intruder, that it is important not to make your mark and to walk softly through the fragile ecosystem.



View from the stern - approaching a rock painting site

CLUB VOTES 'YES'

Club members voted "Yes" to donating \$2500 to the GIRLS POWER CAMP, run by the HN Women's Shelter, and \$1800 (\$180 for 10 campers) for the Fresh Air Fund, run by the Children's Aid Society.



SOAPBOX SAMS

Wayne's Rant - I am to Busy

Yesterday I called a Burlington lady lawyer to find out why I had not heard from her on a client project that began in June. She informed me "I am too busy" (IATB) and would not be completing the next step in the project anytime soon. She said it in a tone as if she was doing our mutual client a favour by doing what she previously agreed to do. After all her life and career are these overwhelming burdens and the rest of us live in a void and her not fulfilling her obligations could not possibly cause us any problems! (needless to say I will be having her replaced)

I have heard a lot of that lately, in and out of Rotary. People using the phrase "I am too busy" (IATB) as if it justifies them not fulfilling their commitments. I have got news for the IATB users of the world – IATB is not a good excuse and here's more news for you - the rest of us are busy too! What bothers me most about IATB is that it is often used when they really mean I got a better offer. For example, "I have to do business on Sunday instead of work on the Spookhouse as promised." Of course "I" neglects to mention that all of Saturday was spent golfing. Sadly if Sparky were to do something like this, as his parent I would punish him, but when adults do it no one says a thing!

IATB is perfectly all right for not agreeing to do things in the first place. Of course, in Rotary it would be nice if the people who are too busy to make a significant commitment to a project chose to abstain, rather than voting to accept a new project. That way the people leading a project will know who they can count on for more than morale support!

Sure there are times when our situation changes and we cannot meet our commitments. If that means you were unable to fulfill a Rotary function, it would be common courtesy to let the appropriate people know and find your own replacement. It might even be nice to call afterwards and thank the replacement for helping you out. Simply calling the chair and saying IATB to make my commitment is nearly as rude and ignorant as just not showing up.

We are a young club and we all have lots of commitments. Therefore it is extremely important that we consider our time commitments before we initiate projects.

- Wayne Wormald

Missing in Action

Memo to our membership committee: Should we be alarmed at the number of our members missing in action? In a run through of our roster I was amazed at the faces I haven't seen in months. Are we doing something wrong or can we do something to re ignite their passion for our wonderful club. Before we undertake a drive for new members shouldn't we firm up current members commitment?

Kudos to our program committee and regrets to those who have missed our last two meetings. Little would I have thought of hearing from a pediatrician but John Deacon's

talk was of universal appeal. Scott Petrie of Bird Studies Canada graphically illustrated the importance of Long Point in bird migration and awareness of habitat retention.

And finally to our house committee, there have been some comments about the breakfast menu. Why not speak to the chef on what alternatives can be offered and do a survey of members on their preferences... Al is very accommodating but if we don't communicate with him he cannot respond

- Keith Jones



GOLF TOURNEY

Friday, Sept 14 @ Woodside Greens Golf Park
Sue T. will match you up in a foursome if you want her to....
Just let her know. Three divisions are available: 18 Hole Mixed Team (2 women, 2 men), 18 Hole Quad Team (any gender will do!), 9 Hole Quad Team. You must pre-register
Chicken or Steak for dinner!!! Cost \$60 / 18 holes & Dinner, \$45 / 9 Holes & Dinner, \$15 / Dinner only (@ 6:30 pm).

CIGAR NIGHT COMMITTEE

Keith reported that John and Hazel showed up at the July meeting at Kim's, where they all "dare to have to much fun". The Race couple kindly donated a gold wafer and a crisp \$100 bill as a future auction item for next year's event. Thanks to John & Hazel for this generous donation!

Sunriser Bulletin

Publication of the Rotary Club of Norfolk Sunrise
Communications & Public Relations Committee

Chair: Ian Thomas (Sunriser technical)

Members: Rhonda Clarke-Bruyn, Ross Gowan, Blair Harrison,
Carolyn Wiens - Sunriser Editor

Committee Chairs

Youth & Exchange - Lucine McKay

Community Concerns & Environment - Jim Dawson

Rotary Foundation & World Community Service - Keith Jones

Membership & Attendance - Sue O'Dwyer

Club Fellowship - Brian Snow

Ways & Means + Major Events - Mark Boerkamp

Club President: Steve Malo

Club President-Elect: Sue O'Dwyer

Secretary: Judy Scrivener

Treasurer: Charlie Douglas & Lynn Jarvis

Directors: Dave Murphy, Donna Raytrowsky, Peter Wheatly

Send Sunriser submissions to: cwiens@adroinc.com

Deadline for submissions: Wednesday 1:00 p.m.

MEMBER NEWS

Congrats to Judy Scrivener and Bryan Brown for their recent purchase of the lock, stock and barrel of Captain Billy's Restaurant (and building) in Dover. They've moved in, and Judy told me that she waitressed for the first time in XXX years on Friday night....and oh boy! What fun! Good luck to you both, and hey Fellowship Committee - can we organize an event down there sometime when Judy and Bryan feel ready and settled in!?

TIME FOR SOME COMEDY.....

Equal pay???

A mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a Harley, when he spotted a world-famous heart surgeon in his shop. The heart surgeon was waiting for the service manager to come take a look at his bike. The mechanic shouted across the garage, "Hey Doc can I ask you a question?" The famous surgeon, a bit surprised, walked over to the mechanic working on the motorcycle. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I also can open hearts, take valves out, fix'em, put in new parts and when I finish this will work just like a new one. So how come I get a pittance and you get the really big money, when you and I are doing basically the same work?"

The surgeon paused, smiled and leaned over, and whispered to the mechanic..... "Try doing it with the engine running!"



TUESDAY, AUGUST 28 - DUTY ROSTER -

Chaplain - Peter Wheatley

Greeter - Lynne Jarvis

Sgt-At-Arms - Keith Jones

Speaker is Sue

O'Dwyer on RYLA