



# BETWEEN FRIENDS

🌻 working with the park to make it an even better place to visit 🌻

## Autumn 2010

**FRIENDS OF SANDBANKS PARK**  
P.O. Box 20007

219 Main Street

Friends web page is [www/pec.on.ca/friends](http://www/pec.on.ca/friends)  
Picton ON K0K 3V0

The Friends of Sandbanks Park is a Registered Charity #893935767

### 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Neil Sipkes	Membership Co-ordinator	613-393-5774
Evelyn Sloane	Newsletter Editor	613-476-3277

### 2010 - 2011 MEETING DATES

Friends of Sandbanks Park meetings are at the Park Office and start promptly at 10:00am. However, the AGM is usually held offsite. All members are welcome to attend, but please confirm in advance, by phoning Penny at 613-393-5774. The following are the planned dates for the next few months - September 13, October 18, November 8, and December 13 for the AGM, January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11 .

The printing of the newsletter is made possible by the generous support of Don Bucholtz, Superintendent of Sandbanks Provincial Park. Thank you to Don and all the staff at the Park who support the Friends in so many ways. We would be pleased to print articles pertaining to memories of Sandbanks; joys or woes of camping; book reviews; recipes - Snail mail to the Friends address or e-mail to [romar@kos.net](mailto:romar@kos.net). Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is *March 15, 2011*. The contents of this newsletter are the sole property of the Friends of Sandbanks Park and may not be reproduced without the permission of the editor.

Local companies advertise in the newsletter. Their generosity helps to offset the postage and supplies for the newsletter. Please support these local businesses in the County.

***A quote by Elizabeth Renzetti - Globe & Mail columnist - from an article on camping in England ...Camping is a tax on women .... Spend a week packing all your stuff just so you can do your housework outdoors.***



This summer certainly has been better than last year. Park attendance, copious local produce, and visitors everywhere attest to more heat with just enough rain. Friends- sponsored events have been well-attended. We will have to allocate a special line in the budget for participation prizes for Sandfest and Trash Bash with so many attendees. It is such fun to meet everyone at these events. Theatre in the Park has again received great reviews with NHE staff writing and acting the stories. Many runners have already signed up for the Fun Run. Though not a Friends-sponsored event it should be fun having Harvestin' the County at the park with beef and a pig roast in early September

Invitations are out to our local artists for Scenes of Sandbanks *and Beyond* and we look forward to seeing the variety and talent shown at Black Prince Winery, one of our many supporters.

The Nature Shoppe has been busy with great t-shirts and super magnets along with all the books and other nature-themed merchandise. I hope you had a chance to purchase some items using your membership discount. I like to do some of my Christmas shopping when the crowds have subsided.

Our budget will be tight for the next couple of years as we are working on a book on the dunes, and now that the Dunes Trail is going to be a reality, we have lots of work to plan and purchase the interpretive signs. We will be continuing to purchase trees for our reforestation project and hope to see the path beside the roadway at Outlet completed to the bridge.

The History Lives Here project now has film shorts about county history, including Sandbanks Park, showing at the movie theatre. Look for them playing at the Nature Shoppe as well.

My thanks to all the board and committee chairs who put so much time and energy into making Friends an active organization able to do so much for the park. We could not do as much without the assistance of our park naturalist, Yvette Bree, her assistant Jo-Anne Dewey and their summertime NHE staff. They organize and work at Lakeshore Lodge Days, Theatre in the Park, Mother's Day, campfires, interpretive programs, maintain the Visitor's Centre, sell our Nature Shoppe merchandise... the list goes on. After the camping season we rely on Yvette and Jo-Anne to write and advise us on trail guides, information brochures, our dune book, History Lives Here information, interpretive signs, choice of trees to purchase, again another lengthy list of on-going accomplishments. Sandbanks is fortunate to have excellent caring staff. They are a pleasure to work with. Our AGM will be held December 13. If you are interested in attending, contact us. Thank you for your membership support.

## HISTORY MOMENTS

PETER LOCKYER

The History Moments are a series of two-minute, video vignettes on County history themes played before movies at The Regent Theatre. The series was launched in September 2009 at The Regent as an innovative initiative to tell old stories to new audiences using today's technology. The idea is to showcase local history to a younger generation of students unfamiliar with the rich history around them, to the new settlers who have retired to the community, and to the many tourists that visit us each year. Individual vignettes are sponsored by local businesses and community groups. By telling these old stories, we also highlight the importance of supporting organizations which are the custodians of local history - archives, cemeteries, historical societies, museums and other heritage groups. Without these organizations, this heritage will most certainly be lost to Time. The "hidden stories" lying dormant with them can be transformed into "popular history" - a renewable resource that can be retailed to meet the marketplace demand for historical products and services.

In addition to its broadcast at The Regent, the features are seen at Cinefest, the twice-monthly alternative film series at The Regent, and have been distributed as educational resources into area schools and libraries, and serve as part of the Summer Interpretative Program at the Sandbanks Provincial Park enjoyed by the park's 550,000 annual visitors. The series is also broadcast online on my company's website [www.historyliveshere.ca](http://www.historyliveshere.ca)



Picton Library circa 1906

The 2010 series of 12 vignettes, include a profile on Sir John A. Macdonald's time in Picton from 1832-34, a profile of Miss Supertest, the Canadian racing boat that set world speedboat records 50 years ago this August in Picton waters, the story of Picton's Carnegie Library funded in 1906 through the generosity of American industry titan Andrew Carnegie, and features on The Picton Fair celebrating its 175th anniversary, the logging, fishing and rum running industries, and the stories of the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, and the Boulter Orange Lodge, the last lodge of its kind in The County. These are old stories that are wonderfully engaging...and worth telling again.



The summer of 2010 has been the warmest in a number of years. Subsequently our day use visitation has increased significantly. Up to August 1<sup>st</sup> our day use visitation has increased by 28% or approximately 50,000 visitors. Our camping visitation is almost identical to last year which is typical as our sites are usually full if the weather is good or bad.

We have 6 construction projects this year and all are in various stages within our procurement section. The Cedars Comfort Station project and improvements to the water supply and sewage system has already been tendered and the bid is being reviewed. The Road Improvement Project is awaiting some final design criteria from consultants before going to tender. The Lake on the Mountain Vault Privy Construction Project is presently in the tendering process and will close August 24<sup>th</sup>. The Picnic Shelter Project is ready to be tendered. The Campsite Electrification Project is also ready to be tendered.

Now for the project which the Friends have the most interest in, The Dunes Trail Project has passed the EA review period with very few comments. Jim Peets, a retired landscape architect has been hired to complete the design, specification and drawings for the tendering process. Jim is expected to be completed with these aspects of the tender package by the end of August.

This fall will be very busy as each of these projects gets underway so I look forward to completing all these projects on time and the benefits to the park they will bring.



Yvette Bree & Joanne Dewey dressed for camping in the late 1800 style.

Nail hammering contest



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Throughout the summer, NHE (Natural Heritage Education) staff provided entertaining and educational programs for everyone from preschoolers to adults. Visitors were encouraged to sing at campfires, test their knowledge at Trivia Challenge, hike our world-famous dunes, become a junior archaeologist at a children's program and discover the world of fish at an evening program, just to name a few.

The ever-popular Theatre in the Park was held four times throughout the summer, and featured the return of Inspector Clueless, who solved "The Case of Sandbanks' Mysterious Vanishing Animals." Another play "Out to Lunch" saw two tree planters from the 1920's swapping stories over lunch, each trying to one-up the other for best story. Thanks to talented staff that have returned for several years now, this musical theatre style has become part of our regular summer schedule and receives great comments from visitors.

After a one-year hiatus (to celebrate Outlet Memories in 2009), our annual Lakeshore Lodge Day returned. In its 21<sup>st</sup> year (we think!), it was once again received with enthusiasm by both campers & locals. We began the day with a guided walk through the grounds of the lodge in the morning, which allowed visitors to learn more about the most famous of several lodges that used to operate in what is now Sandbanks. A traditional turn-of-the-century picnic, complete with games, corn on the cob & lemonade was held in the afternoon. Staff were dressed in period costume & music from that era added to the atmosphere, as kids & adults tried their hand at some of the usual - sack race, potato & spoon race, tug-of-war - and more unusual - rolling pin toss, shoe scramble, needle & thread race - games.

The day ended with a musical version of "Wheel of Fortune," (you had to be there!) and a film showing life in Canada in the early 1900's.



*Naomi & Zack hamming it up at Lakeshore Lodge Day*

Another aspect of NHE is resource management. As mentioned in the last newsletter, we were lucky to be part of a provincial initiative that saw the planting of 45,000 trees this spring in some of the old agricultural fields within the park. NHE staff have been mulching many of these trees throughout the summer, hoping to increase the survival rate of the small seedlings. We have also been removing invasive species (primarily Garlic Mustard & Dog Strangling Vine), maintaining a Marram Grass nursery and performing minor trail maintenance & monitoring.

The park - and perhaps NHE in particular! - is certainly lucky to be involved with the Friends. Amongst the many projects that they fund and are involved with, they receive grants for & administrate 4 staff positions within NHE. Without these "extra bodies," we would not be able to put on our special events, or tackle as many resource management projects as we do.

**Did You Know...?**

If you visit Sandbanks this fall, particularly on a warm, sunny day, chances are good that you will see at least a few Monarch butterflies. They collect along the edge of Lake Ontario in autumn, feeding, resting and waiting until the winds are just right for their long journey, which ends in Mexico, 3,000 kilometres. Unfortunately, these Monarchs won't make it back to Sandbanks. They will begin the long flight back, but mate along the way and then die. Their offspring will continue their parents' journey. They may make it back to Sandbanks, but it is more likely that **THEIR** offspring will be the ones we finally see in early summer.

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**SANDBANKS SANDFEST**

**DON METCALF, CO-ORGANIZER**

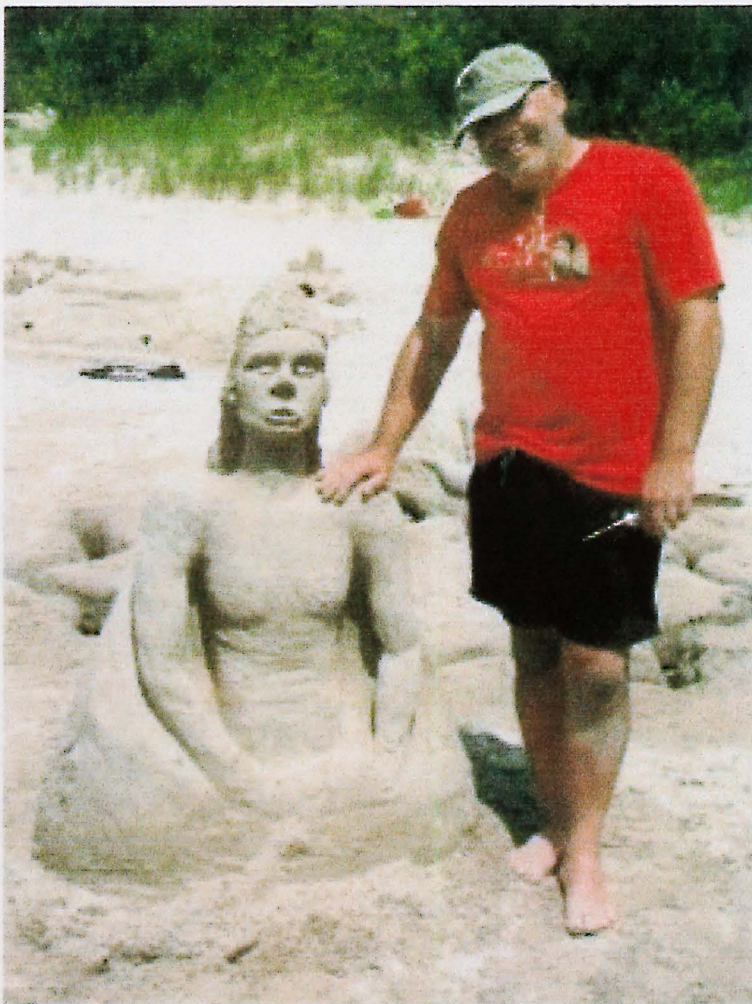


Wednesday, July 21 was the fourth annual Sandfest sand sculpture event held at the Outlet Beach at Sandbanks Provincial Park. The weather cooperated in splendid form again this year. Over 125 Park visitors and campers of all ages formed and molded their artistic works on a warm, sun-lit beach.

This Friends of Sandbanks-sponsored event continues to gain in popularity. A variety of more than 30 sand structures graced the beach including many sand castles, cartoon characters, two racing cars, sunbathers, mermaids and other mythical forms. Squeals of laughter

and good-humoured words of encouragement signified another delightful day of sand sculpture creativity. Prizes were awarded to all participants with special gifts going to those who demonstrated an outstanding and unique talent in three-dimensional, artistic originality.

Special thanks go to Penny Sipkes for arranging prizes and to Elaine Metcalf, Mark Powell, Janet Mooney, and members of the student staff for their assistance.





There are 2 [] in each paragraph. One is the Provincial Park or Nature Reserve, the other is an item of interest about the park. Good Luck. Check out [www.ontarioparks.com](http://www.ontarioparks.com) for more information about Ontario Parks

1. [], the world's longest freshwater beach is nestled in and around 14 kilometres of white sandy shore on the southern coast of Georgian Bay. It boasts a beautiful area of [], covered now with vegetation, including many rare species of wildflowers.
2. Once the site of a popular Victorian resort, [] north of Goderich is perched on a bluff that offers spectacular views of the blue waters and the most [] of Lake Huron.
3. For 130 years before this area became [], it was home of a prominent family. Tour [], the 19th-century family manor, & St. George's Church.
4. Majestic white pine covers much of [] beside the Ottawa River. Among these century-old trees and a stand of [] by the Carp River, you can see killedeer, goldfinches, flickers and white-tailed deer.
5. The body of [] was found on [] Lake.
6. George Wale was a [] in [].
7. Gift and Bookshop [] is operated by the Friends of [].
8. Happy 50th Birthday to [], a popular recreational park northwest of Dryden, with [] you can see the bottom at six metres.
9. Thursday evenings in [] is the popular wolf howl in [].
10. The only provincial park with a golf course, [] is also a naturalist's paradise. Its diverse ecosystem includes marshes, bluffs and []. Hiking trails lead to a fish culture station, a hatchery pond, and panoramic views of Lake Erie.
11. In Canada's sun parlour close to its southernmost tip is [], this [] on Lake Erie shelters many creatures. Migrating birds stop here, turtles sun on logs and herons wade in the shallow creeks. Watch for birds in the Carolinian forest and camp under oak and hickory trees.
12. Beech, sassafras, sugar maple, shagbark hickory and tulip trees thrive in one of Canada's largest Carolinian forests. Sunlit meadows of prairie grasses grow here among towering oaks and pines in a protected oak savanna. Rare animal species, including the endangered [] and the eastern spiny softshell turtle, call [] home.
13. Known as [], [] plunges 40 metres over sheer cliffs and some of the oldest fossils in the world. Get a bird's-eye view from jutting platforms and trails along the gorge.
14. [] is a protected, pristine wilderness retreat of international acclaim west of Lake Superior on the Canada-U.S. border. The park's tangled network of lakes once formed water routes travelled by [] and fur traders.
15. An internationally known singing group [] were formed at []. Anglers favour the "still and clear waters" of the Lake. The park features a challenging, four-day, shoreline hiking trail 76 kilometres long, and canoeing to remote campsites.
16. Twenty kilometres from the salt waters of James Bay, [] consists of four islands in the Moose River estuary. Water taxis take campers to Charles Island where sub-Arctic flora flourish and [] sometimes play. This is Cree country and site of the first Hudson's Bay Company trading post at Moose Factory.
17. Home of the endangered [], where Natives once sheltered under rock overhangs on the shores of this coldwater lake north of the St. Lawrence River. [] was a cottage site for wealthy Victorians who summered here.
18. Gateway to Temagami's vast wilderness, including Lady Evelyn Smoothwater, [] is a base for canoeists, boaters, hikers and anglers. A plaque to [] honours this well-known English conservationist.
19. A mesa of intruded [] is the dominant feature of this remote nature reserve []. The mesa takes the shape of a sharply defined plateau with cliff-like sides, surrounded by rocky debris from erosion.
20. Located on the deep sand and silt deposits of the former Algonquin Lake Plain, this nature reserve protects one of the few remaining remnant patches of [] in Ontario. Currently much of [] is planted to Red Pine, but future plans include restoring the native prairie ecosystem.
21. A bend of the [] has become a wetland with an adjacent sand flat, where poplar, white birch, ash, buffaloberry, and purple flowering raspberry grow. Minerals found in \_\_\_ include nepheline, sodalite, biotite, zircon, and blue corundum.
22. Here, on a flat sandy delta, lie the ruins of a French trading [] post that operated from the early 1700s until it was abandoned by the [] in 1904.



23. Situated on hilly drumlins, [] borders and provides access to the busy Trent River south of Campbellford. Scenic bluffs carved out of limestone bedrock provide a view of picturesque []. Overgrown stone fences and cleared meadows are relics of farms once worked here.
24. The aboriginal village, [], that lies buried here has connections to the [].
25. [] is a natural curiosity: it has a constant flow of clean, fresh water, with no apparent source, 60 metres above Lake Ontario. Mohawks offered gifts to its spirits and settlers thought it was []. Come for the view of the Bay of Quinte.
26. This spectacular wilderness park encompasses rugged topography, clear lakes and rushing rivers. Numerous waterfalls are found along the []. The most impressive is [] which drops more than 25 metres.
27. Giant sand dunes and golden beaches form two of the largest freshwater baymouth sandbars in the world here, on the shores of Lake Ontario at []. Efforts to stabilize shifting sands disturbed by farming have revived distinctive dune plants such as [], butterfly weed and sand spurge.
28. Named for the 17th-century explorer \_\_\_\_, this Mattawa River park east of North Bay celebrates the voyageurs who tackled portages and rapids here. See a replica [] in the heritage centre, shoot the rapids or hike to lookouts for panoramic views of the valley.
29. Nipissing Bluff drops 60 metres into Georgian Bay from \_\_\_\_. Across the water is [], an island where the spirit Kitchikewana rests. From the shoreline fen to forest bog, on spirit walks and owl prowls, explore a unique convergence of wildlife and geography.
30. From several lakes in [] off the Trans-Canada Highway, you can paddle to the [] along French and Pickerel rivers into Georgian Bay.

Algonquin	Awenda	Blue Lake	Bon Echo
Canoe Lake	Charleston	Devon Road	Egan Chutes
Ferris	Finlayson Point	Fitzroy	Grundy Lake
Holland Landing	Kakabeka Falls	Killarney	Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater
Lake on the Mountain	Michipicoten	Pointe Farms	Quackenbush
Quetico	Rondeau	Samuel De Champlain	Sandbanks
Sibbald Point	Tidewater	Turkey Point	Wakami
Wasaga Beach	Wheatley		

August	beautiful sunsets	birchbark freighter	bluets
bottomless	Eildon Hall	Giant's Tomb	Grey Owl
Greystones	Helen Falls	Hudson's Bay Company	Iroquoian culture
Niagara of the North	oak savanna	Ojibway	Precambrian rock
prothonotary warbler	Ranney Falls	rare inland sand dunes	rat snake
sculptor in residence	seals and belugas	secluded estuary	tallgrass prairie
Tom Thompson	voyageurs' route	Wakami Wailers	water so clear
York River	200-year-old bur oak		

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Mr Sandman send me a dream ....

Thanks to Penny Sipkes for all the photos of Sandbanks Events.

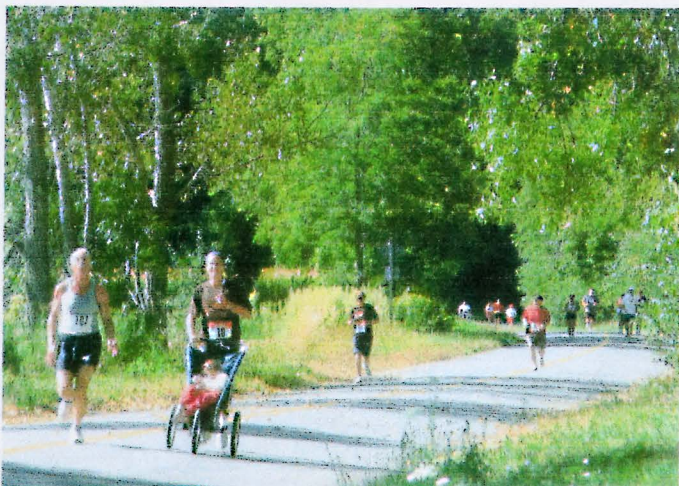


Sunday October 3

6th Annual County Marathon

<http://www.pecmarathon.ca/>

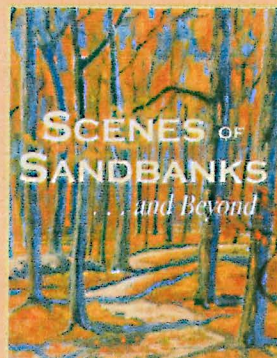
A Boston Marathon Qualifier. Course goes through the park and road closures may affect travel plans.



Running through the park, the easy way ...



... and hopping through the Park, at a disadvantage!



ORIGINAL ART SHOW & SALE

Over 40 local artists

Oct 22 - Nov 7

Art Cellar at Black Prince Winery



**Thursday, October 21  
Scenes of Sandbanks and Beyond**

Opening reception 7-9pm

All 'Friends' are cordially invited to the opening reception, 7:00pm-9:00pm at Black Prince Winery, 13370 Loyalist Parkway, west of Picton. The Show continues at Black Prince Winery as follows with free admission and ample parking

Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays from 11am to 5pm

October 23, 24, 25

October 30, 31, November 1

November 6, 7, & 8

The premise of the show is to promote the scenic beauty and the historical significance of **The County**. Works of art that celebrate the historical and pictorial uniqueness, changing seasons, especially the Burgeoning Wine Industry and the Provincial Parks of 'The County' are featured. Funds raised from *Scenes of Sandbanks and Beyond* are directed to the Dunes Trail.

The image of the Original Oil Painting by Aidan Haley shown here will also be featured on wine especially bottled for *Scenes of Sandbanks and Beyond*.

**Definition of a Canadian - one who can text in a canoe.**

Black Prince



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