

Contents

The Friends Celebrate 25 Years	1
Rob looks forward to a Busy Year in the Park	2
Lighthouse Interpretive Centre Warms Up	
The Friends' Trail Refurbishment Program	3
Harold's Energy and Passion will be Missed	
Kids 'n Nature Summer Day Camp	4
Volunteer to give Nature a Hand	
37th Annual Waterfowl Weekend — March 16 and 17	5
Special Products in the Gift Shop	6
NatureWorks	
GO SLOW, Love the Park	
Volunteers are our Backbone	7
Join the Christmas at Presqu'ile Committee	
2013 Fundraising Raffle	
Board of Directors	
Calendar of Events 2013	8

The Beacon



Volume 25, No 1 - Winter 2013

www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca

The Friends Celebrate 25 Years

As we begin to celebrate our 25th Anniversary, a look back reveals the wisdom of many who gathered in late 1987 to create a support group, a 'Friends' group, to ensure community members and lovers of Presqu'ile had an opportunity to contribute to this important gem on the north shore of Lake Ontario.

The partnership we enjoy with Ontario Parks, and our local Park Staff, would not be possible without the strong and supportive working relationship we have had with the Park Superintendents.

We are grateful to all of them, in particular Tom Mates, our most recent and long-time superintendent, and also to Rob Cunningham, the current Acting Park Superintendent.

PRESERVE AND PROTECT

Our Vision Statement says in part, *"We are an organization that believes above all that the natural heritage of this unique area must be preserved and protected for future generations to enjoy."*

Clearly this continues to resonate with our current members more than 25 years later as participation of community members and lovers of the Park, from far and wide, continues to support the many activities, not only the ones that generate funds but also those activities that educate and remediate environmental challenges within the Park.

A STRONG FOUNDATION

I do wish to acknowledge and thank the many who have gone before us, those who expended their individual talents, energy, and financial resources that have built such a strong foundation for our future endeavours.

Thanks also to our current Board of Directors and committee chairs and members, to the volunteers, and to others who currently are committed to an improving future.

We are in an enviable position among Not-For-Profit Charitable groups to have an energized membership and sound financial footings to expand our contributions to Presqu'ile Park.

JOBES' WOODS TRAIL

We have just embarked on another significant capital project to rebuild the deteriorating Jobes' Woods Trail, which will see Bill Wilson and his trusty troop of volunteers construct a fine new path in one of the oldest deciduous woodlots in the area.

The walking trails will be constructed in the same fashion as the Marsh Boardwalk Trail. It is a complicated and time-consuming project; unfortunately the trail will remain closed throughout 2013, but please come back for a hike in 2014.

I must also acknowledge the ongoing and excellent support provided by our corporate partners from Brighton. Both **Vanderlaan Building Products** and **Tim-BR Mart** continue to help us with improvements to the Park.

We also have begun to receive member donations which are earmarked for this project and welcome any contributions you are able to send our way.

NHE PROGRAM

2013 will again permit us to partner with the Natural Heritage Education program run by the Park, whereby we will provide summer staff and Nature Centre expertise to ensure a top-notch educational experience for visitors to the Nature Centre.

Thanks to all members of our Education Committee, led by Tone Careless, for their passion for learning.

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

KIDS 'N NATURE

The **Kids 'n Nature School Group Program** will be offered again this year to support teachers and their students and our **Summer Camps** for 8- to 11-year-olds are scheduled for **July 15 to 19** and **August 12 to 16**.

JUNE 8 — ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and 25th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

We are very proud to celebrate our **25th Anniversary** and, at the time of writing, plans are under way for a special event to be held after our Annual General Meeting. In order that we may include Park Staff, please note that we have moved our AGM from its usual date and time.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM, at Stonehedge, scheduled to start at 1:00 pm. Afterwards, Friends and friends of Friends are invited to gather at the Amphitheatre, at 3:00 pm, for a social event. Program details will be sent out later.

Please stay tuned, as all members will be able to take part in a celebratory project which is under development and is being designed to honour our vision in an ongoing and tangible way.

In closing I wish to extend a heartfelt and genuine thank you to Jenny Alker, the editor of the Beacon.

This will be our last print edition of the Beacon, and over the years Jenny has provided you, the members, with a wonderful variety of articles and photos from all areas of the Park and The Friends' life. It's not an easy job gathering material, organizing schedules, printing, and delivery and we thank her.

The good news is that our Communications Committee and Jenny have undertaken to ensure ongoing information and news coverage in electronic form, via the website and through e-newsletters. Please, it is up to you to ensure that we have your e-mail address. Jenny, from the tips of our typing fingers to the hats which we doff ... well done...

Steve Sinclair, Chair, The Friends of Presqu'ile Park

The Friends of Presqu'ile Park is a non-profit charitable association of volunteers dedicated to enhancing the educational, interpretive, and scientific research programs at Presqu'ile Provincial Park.

Rob looks forward to a Busy Year in the Park

I am close to completing almost a year at Presqu'ile, filling in for Tom Mates. During this time, The Friends of Presqu'ile have made quite an impression on me.

The organization is filled with extremely intelligent, caring, and passionate people. I have said this quite often during my time here, but I have never met such a deeply involved, hard-working, and determined group of people. This year is the 25th Anniversary of The Friends. This is an important milestone that we will be celebrating this season.

Many of the activities The Friends are involved with are absolutely cutting edge, from the support of the Park's Biodiversity Program to the Kids 'n Nature School Group Program and Summer Day Camp.

CONSTRUCTION CREW

TAKES ON JOBES' WOODS TRAIL

I am extremely excited about the renewal of Jobes' Woods Trail; the support of The Friends for this project is so important. It would not be going forward without your help. I personally want to thank The Friends of Presqu'ile

for their work on this project and the efforts of the construction crew. I am also gleefully awaiting some of the stories from the construction crew, and the shenanigans that occur with this project.

ACCESSIBILITY IS THE KEY

This year the Park will be focusing on improving the state of our capital infrastructure and supporting our maintenance team.

The Park has also purchased an All Terrain Wheelchair for the beaches which will help some of our visitors access this part of the Park. We will continue to assess and look for new ways to ensure people get to enjoy the Park.

REMEMBERING HAROLD

Finally, I would be remiss in not mentioning the passing of Harold Atkins. He was an integral part of the history of the Park and his contributions will not be forgotten.

*Rob Cunningham
A/Park Superintendent Presqu'ile Provincial Park*

Lighthouse Interpretive Centre Warms Up



The Friends will be providing a new service for campers and visitors this spring. Reflecting the increased need for connectivity for e-mail and research, a **WiFi hotspot** will be available in the area of the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre (LIC).

The Friends, with support from **DeCastris Electronics** (Belleville), have installed a router in the LIC which will transmit approximately 100 feet to the front of the building. Visitors and staff will be able to log on while sitting outside on the picnic benches provided.

It will also provide the ability for The Friends to develop new electronic displays.

The Friends' Trail Refurbishment Program



Photo: J Alker

Paul Lynam, Dave Houghton, Ken McClintock, Brian Sutton, Paul Davies, Hans Ter Haar, Pete Alker, and Bill Wilson — some of our volunteers working on Jobes' Woods Trail.

The Friends' volunteers are constructing once again. Regular users of the Park will remember that The Friends funded and rebuilt the Marsh Boardwalk.

Beginning in December, 2012, and continuing through 2013, our volunteers are busy refurbishing the **Jobes' Woods Trail**. This project, to be funded by The Friends at an estimated cost of **\$80,000**, means replacing the over 600 metres of old rotting boardwalks with new ones.

As we did with the Marsh Boardwalk, we will be using **Trex** on the decking. Trex is a high-performance wood-alternative product that is made from recycled and reclaimed plastic and waste wood that would otherwise

end up in land-fill. It is extremely weather-resistant and will never rot, crack, or splinter.

Jobes' Woods is a microcosm of the interior of the Park, transecting a number of different habitats, old growth forest, second growth forest, old field, and plantation in slightly over 1 km.

This variety, which clearly shows the steps of forest succession, makes this a popular trail for school groups. This topic and other school curriculum lessons based on forest ecology, are often presented along this trail, either through The Friends of Presqu'ile's Kids n' Nature program or by the schools themselves.

The most significant habitat along the trail is the **old growth forest**. Old growth is not just big trees, though there are some of these, but more significantly, trees of all ages, from seedlings to old, rotten giants. It is also unploughed land, with many humps and hollows. The variety of tree ages and uneven ground creates an immense number of microclimates resulting in a greater biodiversity.

Most noticeable along Jobes' Woods Trail are the hollows that fill with water every spring. These hollows are breeding grounds for a great number of amphibians and invertebrates that need these shaded, fishless water bodies to breed.

The Jobes' Woods Trail and new boardwalk are especially valuable for gaining access to these vernal pools without disturbing the habitats, and without getting wet feet.

Pete Alker, Chair, Communications and PR Committee

Harold's Energy and Passion will be Missed

The Friends of Presqu'ile Park has lost a long-time member and major supporter of achieving our vision for Presqu'ile.

Harold Atkins was actually born on Presqu'ile Point, on the last working farm, in 1930. He moved away to pursue a distinguished civil engineering career, culminating many years later as Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering Technology at Seneca College.

His fondness for the Point only grew as the years passed and in 1998, Harold and Anne moved to their cottage on Presqu'ile and then built a home in Brighton.

Visitors to the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre will hear the **Jack Atkins** mannequin representing his father, who narrates the history of Presqu'ile Park. Much of the dialogue and written material was created by Harold, and edited by his wife, Anne.

Atkins Lane, within the Park, was designated by Ontario Parks in recognition of and appreciation for his and his family's contributions.

Both Harold and Anne, his wife of 53 years, were instrumental, along with many others, in the creation and



continuation of the Church in the Park, the multi-denominational services conducted each summer at the Amphitheatre. Campers and locals gather to worship together in this wonderful outdoor cathedral setting.

The Friends of Presqu'ile Park benefited from Harold's energy and passion as he was a member for most, if not all, of our 25-year history, and provided guidance as a Board Director for many years.

Harold wrote articles for various publications about the history of Presqu'ile, including the chapter 'Presqu'ile' in *That's Just the Way We Were: Brighton Memories*. In recent years, Harold held the position of Historian for The Friends.

We will all miss his optimistic and cheerful approach to learning and exploring the wonders of Presqu'ile Point, both the present and historic views.

On behalf of The Friends of Presqu'ile Park members, we offer our condolences to Anne and family.

Steve Sinclair, Chair, The Friends of Presqu'ile Park

Kids 'n Nature Summer Day Camp

A Nature and Outdoor Adventure Camp for 8- to 11-year-olds

Hey kids, think you've got what it takes to survive in the dunes, identify marsh creatures, or build a seaworthy boat? Then grab your hiking shoes, hat, and water bottle, and join us for a 5-day outdoor adventure at Presqu'ile Park.

Come discover Presqu'ile Park's natural and cultural history with us as we explore five different habitats through hiking, games, crafts, and educational activities.

Getting to and from the Park is easy: just hop on the bus, which picks you up and drops you off daily at King Edward Park in Brighton.

We offer two, five-day (**Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm**) camps for 2013:

July 15 to 19
August 12 to 16

Cost per child per camp is **\$100**.



For more information and registration forms, please contact
The Friends of Presqu'ile Park:

telephone **613 475 1688, Ext. 3,**
email **kidsn.nature@hotmail.com**
website **www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca**

Janine McClintock,
Education and Interpretation Committee

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.



Volunteer to give Nature a Hand

Do invasive plants make you sad? Does planting native trees make you happy? Do you like to work outdoors? If so, you are the volunteer we are looking for.

Our world is awash with depressing stories about our degraded natural environment: global climate change, the spread of invasive plants and animals smothering our forests and spoiling our waters, habitat destruction, and even extinction.

With all this weighing on our shoulders – making us feel helpless – it is gratifying to know that we can fight back and make a difference in our own backyard.

The Park's Biodiversity Department (led by Park Biologist, Don Tyerman), is now busy with a wide variety of projects to restore the health of our Park's natural systems. The team is involved with invasive plant removal, habitat restoration, Presqu'ile's native plant nursery (to provide stock for habitat restoration projects), and wildlife surveys.

We are looking for volunteers like you to join us for future citizen initiatives. Join us for a gratifying day working together to carefully give nature a hand. At the end of these workdays you will see the difference you have made and, best of all, nature then builds and improves on the healthy foundations that have been laid.

If you are interested in learning more, please call **Nancy Sutton**, our **Volunteer Coordinator**, at **613 475 9817**, or e-mail her at **nancysutton10@sympatico.ca**. Be sure to put **Biodiversity** in the subject line.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming citizen initiatives.

Philip Careless

**Buy your Raffle tickets at the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre during Waterfowl Weekend
and Warblers and Whimbrels Weekend — two great Bushnell prizes.**

Bushnell Legend Binoculars

Spotting Scope and Tripod

Draw to take place at the LIC on Sunday, May 19, at 4:00 pm



37th Annual Waterfowl Weekend - March 16 and 17



Mark your calendar — **Saturday and Sunday, March 16 and 17, the 37th Annual Waterfowl Weekend** will be held, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm each day.

This is a great chance for nature enthusiasts to come out and appreciate one of the great nature spectacles on earth – the return of migrating waterfowl to their staging areas along the lower Great Lakes.

Presquile is well situated to experience this phenomenon with close viewing and a good variety of species. Seeing 20 different species of waterfowl in a day is not unusual and 25+ species are usually tallied during the season. During viewing weekends, volunteers with scopes are situated at key locations to help visitors find and identify the different species.

Both the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre and Nature Centre will be open. The Nature Centre will have ducky

displays and children's activities, as well as duck decoy carving displays (confirmation pending), and a representative of Henry's Camera Store. The Lighthouse Centre showcases photographic and art displays.

In addition, Bushnell representative, **Dave Richards**, will be on hand to answer your questions and show you the latest in optical equipment. Bushnell has again generously donated some optical equipment for a Friends' fund-raising raffle. The draw will take place at the end of the **Warblers and Whimbrels Weekend** on May 19th.

The Friends will be there with a barbecue, starting at 11:00 am. Nothing like hot food on a winter's day to keep the spirits up, and the birders looking. Proceeds from the Barbeque will go towards our projects in the Park. Also, The Friends' Lighthouse Gift Shop will be open both days from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

While it is impossible to determine how the rest of the winter will go, we have already had some early spring migrants in the form of **Canvasbacks** and **Redheads**.

The rare **Barrow's Goldeneye** seems to be back over-wintering off the lighthouse for a fourth straight year. There is no telling if he will still be there come March but it is a sure thing that there will be ducks galore on Presquile Bay.

Hope you can come out and join us when we find out what natural wonders will be on display at the 2013 Waterfowl Weekend.

For more information, call me at **613 475 4324, ext 225**, or e-mail **david.bree@ontario.ca**.

David Bree, Natural Heritage Education Leader

Visit The Friends' website www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca.

Waterfowl Weekend BBQs

Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17.

Come and join us for lunch, from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm
You will find us outside the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre.

**HAMBURGERS,
SAUSAGES, HOT DOGS,
and PEAMEAL BACON,
... and also chips and
cookies.**

**Selection of
hot and cold drinks.**

All proceeds from our BBQs
will go towards The Friends'
projects in Presquile Park.



We'll be back for Warblers and Whimbrels Weekend, May 18 and 19.

**Congratulations to
the winner of our
2012 RAFFLE
Mountain Bike
and Camping
Package**

*Thank you to everyone
who made this raffle a
success.*

The winning ticket was
drawn at the Lighthouse
Interpretive Centre, on
October 7, 2012.

The winner is
L Van Dusen of
Brighton.

*See Page 7 for details
about our **2013 Raffle**.*



Special Products in the Gift Shop

Tucked in a corner in the climate controlled Lighthouse Interpretive Centre, the Gift Shop is operated by The Friends of Presqu'ile.

We carry The Friends' publications, clothing, nature books and CDs, patches and pins, jewellery, cards, binoculars, and many more useful and surprising gifts to please that someone special.

The Gift Shop is one of The Friends' significant cash-generating activities. **100% OF PROCEEDS** of Gift Shop sales remain in Presqu'ile to further the Park's educational objectives.

We have partnered with the Brighton Arts Council to make the Lighthouse Art Gallery bigger and better than ever.

Over 25,000 people visited the Lighthouse Centre and the Gift Shop in 2012 to purchase goods, renew memberships, make donations, buy raffle tickets, obtain information about the Park and the local Community, and of course learn about our association and its many activities.

Joyce Boucher

Why not consider becoming a **Gift Shop Volunteer?**

Give me a call at **613 475 1428** and get involved!

Volunteering works wonders — it's a great way to give back.

NatureWorks Workshops for the naturally curious

If you have enjoyed the spring and summer nature walks offered by Park staff, The Friends will help you discover Presqu'ile's rich biodiversity all

year round through our popular NatureWorks courses.

Experienced naturalists will guide you, first in the classroom, then out in the field, in usually an all-day program.

These courses fill up quickly and spaces are limited ... so book early. The modest workshop fee of **\$15** per person, **\$35** per family, applies to

most courses, and includes **free Park entry!** Workshops are suitable for children over 10 yrs.

Confirm dates and fees, and make reservations at **613 475 1688, ext 2.**

*Details are posted on
The Friends' website
www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca.*

GO SLOW, Love the Park

It didn't take long, seconds maybe. I left the motor running, the door open and walked ahead. Looking down there was no sign of trauma. It was lying on its side, the fur unmarked, and the eye still bright – and staring. A few drops of bright red blood on the asphalt directly below the slightly open mouth gave evidence that the Grey Squirrel had died on the spot.

Being on the road would make being struck by a car the most logical cause of death. What a shame! Life can be short enough for the various critters in Presqu'ile Park but vehicle traffic takes a damnable toll.

What made it more distressing was that a number of cars had to have passed either around or over this squirrel when entering the main Park road. No one had the time, or the

compassion, to move the beautiful, recently lively creature, off the road.

It was not heavy but substantive, a reality. The white belly was nicely rounded. I wondered, ... mid-October, too early to be pregnant? I gently placed the body in from the road a good ten feet, among some low growth. No burial.

It was as it was meant to be, part of the lifecycle of fauna of the woods and this way was a damn-sight more dignified than being a road-kill pancake.

Driving on, I thought of the previous week. As I came out of the Newcastle Trail, I saw a beautiful fox sitting in the middle of the paved road coming up from the Lighthouse parking lot. It would hear a car coming around the bend, I was sure. I have come across possibly the same fox before, on



that very stretch, as I drove at a reasonable speed. Great reward.

What are the rewards of thoughtless speed in the Park?

Please **GO SLOW, Love the Park.**

*George Chandler,
local freelance writer living in Brighton*

*Fred Helleiner's Birding Reports are posted every week on our website,
www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca (click on the link on the front page).*

Volunteers are our Backbone

The Friends of Presqu'ile are always on the look-out for more volunteers. Our volunteers have a deep appreciation for the outdoors, and are enthusiastic ambassadors for Presqu'ile Park.

There are many volunteer activities in the Park and these are opportunities to meet new and interesting friends and campers. It is a great way to be involved in one of our many fund-raising activities.

Every Saturday during July and August, we have a lunch-time BBQ near the Amphitheatre, and we need many helpers as we provide appetizing food to hundreds of Park visitors.

We also need enthusiastic volunteers to help sell raffle tickets at the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre and elsewhere. Engaging with visitors and promoting the work of The Friends are important characteristics of a successful ticket seller.

The BBQs and the sale of raffle tickets provide The Friends with significant income. These activities and the fund-raising we generate through The Friends' Gift Shop and Christmas at Presqu'ile Arts and Crafts Show enable us to support the Natural Heritage Education program and other projects within Presqu'ile Park.

The backbone of all these programs is our volunteers.

During the summer months our volunteers spend a few hours on Wednesdays and Saturdays as guides on the FREE shuttle bus that runs between the Park and the centre of Brighton. One of the many volunteer guides from last summer said 'It is so much fun meeting and listening to stories from some of the campers who have been coming to the Park for years.'

The Friends of Presqu'ile Park need volunteers for various special events and educational opportunities. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at **613 475 9817** (answerphone) and leave your message – I will get back to you.

You will be making a difference in our daily contact with campers and visitors to the Park.

Join The Friends this summer for fun in the Park.

Nancy Sutton, Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteering gives you an opportunity to change lives, including your own.

2013 Fund-raising Raffle

Each year The Friends run a raffle with one attractive prize as part of our fund-raising campaign. This year we are pleased to offer a **ClearWater Design Inuvik** single-seat recreational kayak and supplementary equipment.

The INUVIK is a broad, extremely stable kayak with a very large cockpit opening. It is perfect for large loads or rough water.

The oversized cockpit opening makes entry/exit very easy. The Kayak is 13' long, 28" wide, the cockpit is 51" x 18", has a capacity of 350 lbs, and it weighs only 49 lbs.

Please support The Friends' programs. Purchase your tickets from The Friends or at the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre (available from the end of May, 2013). Draw will take place on Sunday, October 13, 2013.

Join the Christmas at Presqu'ile Committee

The Christmas at Presqu'ile Committee is looking for a few team players to join them as they prepare for 2013.

Each year it takes over 200 volunteers to put on Christmas at Presqu'ile and there is a team of energetic volunteers who provide the lead.

We thank Jan, Janet, and Linda, who were on our committee last year. They have stepped down due to other commitments and Lesley, Marg, Eileen, Grace, and Helen would appreciate a few more helping hands.

We are looking for people with good organizational skills, and who are available for the critical period of the Show (ie from mid-October until mid-November). Some retail experience would be an advantage but is not necessary.

If you would like to find out more, please contact **Lesley Scott** at lesjacscott@yahoo.ca.



ClearWaterDesign 
canoes & kayaks



INUVIK with parent and child, from Clear Water Design website.

Corporate Sponsors



The Friends of Presqu'ile Park

PO Box 1442
Brighton ON
K0K 1H0

Telephone:
613 475 1688

E-mail:
info@friendsofpresquile.on.ca

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jenny Alker
613 475 1361

Tone Careless
416 482 6079

John Cockburn
705 295 6967

May Davies, Sec/Treasurer
613 475 9228

Craig Kerr
613 475 3018

Janine McClintock
613 475 4790

Ian Savill
613 439 9001

Steve Sinclair, Chair
613 475 4849

Views expressed in **The Beacon** are not necessarily those of The Friends of Presqu'ile Park or the Editor. Some articles are published to give a viewpoint and to encourage discussion.

We welcome suggestions and constructive criticisms, and also your articles and photographs for inclusion in the newsletter.

Material accepted is subject to editing and revision. Please send your submissions to **The Friends of Presqu'ile, PO Box 1442, Brighton ON K0K 1H0** or e-mail to: info@friendsofpresquile.on.ca

Edited by Jenny Alker

Thanks to all of our contributors, Fred Helleiner, and May and Bill Wilson, for their help with **The Beacon**.

Printed by Willow Publishing.

Page 8



Calendar of Events 2013



March 16 and 17: Waterfowl Weekend, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

World-class waterfowl viewing during the spring migration. Volunteer naturalists will help you view and identify over 25 different species of ducks, geese, and swans. Also check out the children's activities in the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre. Join The Friends for BBQ lunch at the Lighthouse, on Saturday and Sunday, from 11:00 am. The Lighthouse Interpretive Centre and The Friends' Gift Shop will be open (10:00 am to 4:00 pm).

May 18 and 19: Warblers and Whimbrels Weekend, starting at 6:30 am

View the elusive Whimbrel and many colourful Warblers as they migrate to their northern nesting grounds. Enjoy guided nature walks, bird-banding, and evening programs. Join The Friends for BBQ lunch at the Lighthouse, on Saturday and Sunday, from 11:00 am. The Lighthouse Interpretive Centre and The Friends' Gift Shop will be open (10:00 am to 4:00 pm).

The Friends' Gift Shop, located at the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre, will be open weekends, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, during Waterfowl Weekend and Warblers and Whimbrels Weekend, and otherwise by appointment.

*Call Joyce Boucher at
613 475 1428*

June 8: Annual General Meeting at Stonehedge followed by our 25th Anniversary Celebration at the Amphitheatre

The Friends' AGM starts at 1:00 pm and will be followed by our 25th Anniversary Celebration at 3:00 pm at the Amphitheatre. More details will be made available nearer the time.

June 8 to 23: Spring Interpretive Program

Guided nature walks each weekend. The Lighthouse Interpretive Centre and The Friends' Gift Shop will be open weekends (10:00 am to 4:00 pm).

June 29 to September 1: Summer Interpretive Program

Programs will be posted on our website, www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca, and throughout the Park, every week. Daily Family Programs (except Wednesdays) - guided walks, children's programs, evening talks, and campfire sing-alongs. Every Saturday lunchtime, The Friends will hold a BBQ, near the amphitheatre, from 11:00 am. The Nature Centre, Lighthouse Interpretive Centre, and The Friends' Gift Shop will be open daily (10:00 am to 5:00 pm).

August 3 and 4: History Weekend - War of 1812-1814, 10:00 am to 10:00 pm

Relive Presqu'ile's storied past and take part in events. See 1812 re-enactments. Participate in old-fashioned field games, children's boat-building bee and regatta, ghost walks, a history play, and more.

August 31 and September 1: Monarchs and Migrants Weekend, starting at 8:00 am

Bird-banding, Monarch tagging, and guided nature walks celebrate this weekend of fall migration.

September 7 to September 29: Fall Interpretive Program

Friday video presentations and guided hikes on select weekends. The Lighthouse Interpretive Centre and The Friends' Gift Shop will be open weekends (10:00 am until 4:00 pm).

November 2 and 3, 6, 9 and 10: 22nd Christmas at Presqu'ile Arts and Crafts Show

Fine arts and crafts on sale, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm daily, at the Nature Centre and at the Lighthouse Interpretive Centre (10:00 am to 5:00 pm). Visit the tea room at Stonehedge and enjoy our famous rum cake and hot drinks. Free entry to the Park and free admission to the Show. Free parking.

*Unless otherwise noted, all events are FREE.
A valid Park permit is required to enter the Park.*