



Fall 2008

The View from Foley Mountain

News from the Friends of Foley Mountain

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THE FRIENDS OF FOLEY MOUNTAIN CELEBRATE ANOTHER YEAR OF GENEROSITY, EDUCATION AND WINNING

2008 Canoe Raffle



FOFM Chair Sandy Cameron presents the Swift canoe to raffle winners Harvey and Jan Taylor.

A committed team of volunteers sold 2500 tickets for a 16 foot Swift (Algonquin) canoe, paddles, canoe cart and life preservers. Tickets were sold on weekends at the LCBO parking lot, from May until the first weekend in September. The draw took place at the Cove on Labour Day. The winning ticket was held by Harvey Taylor of Kitchener who has a cottage on Thirty Island Lake. The project raised \$2949 which will be used to support education programs and infrastructure projects in the park.

Thanks go to all the ticket sellers and to Betty Jo and Duncan MacDougall who stored the canoe in their garage.

A Look Ahead

From the Friends of Foley Mountain Planning Committee

Our main project at the moment is the design and completion of the second phase of the Mobility trail located near the Foley Mountain Conservation Area Visitor Centre. This trail, opened in 2007, provides easy access for wheelchairs or people who prefer a short hard surfaced pathway with beautiful views of Upper Rideau Lake. The second phase now underway will add interpretive panels and seating areas to provide further convenience for visitors.

The Friends of Foley Mountain is also working with Park Supervisor Rebecca Whitman to provide funds for the purchase of state of the art resource materials for her school programs at Foley Mountain.

Looking ahead, the Friends of Foley Mountain will be organizing a presentation covering "Species at Risk" in our area that will be open to all members of the community. Stay tuned for more details on the timing and location.

Board members will also be meeting with representatives of the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve early in the new year to discuss the possibility of joint projects and programs.

One of our main challenges continues to be fund raising. It has been decided to alternate the Canoe raffle and Auction on alternating years as our major fund raisers. Planning is already starting for the 2009 Community Auction scheduled for August 14th- so mark your calendars for this fun event.

And while you are at it, please mark May 13th, on your calendars for the Friends of Foley Mountain Annual General Meeting.

Guthrie House Performs

On Thursday evening August 21, the Friends of Foley Mountain presented the sixth in a series of concerts at the Interpretive Centre on Foley Mountain.

Once again every seat was filled as an appreciative audience listened to the musical styling of "Guthrie House". The band, comprised of local & area musicians, Marty Crapper, Stu. Pike, Dave Balfour and Steve Hanna, was joined on this evening by guest vocalist Melanie Morris. These professional musicians have been writing music filled with interesting stories and hook laden melodies for many years while drawing on their jazz, rock, folk, pop and blues backgrounds.

The proceeds of these programs allow the "Friends" to continue to assist in the ongoing development of this 800 acre conservation property.

Friends of Foley Mountain Financial Results to Oct.14, 2008

	<i>Results to Date</i>	<i>Forecast for Year</i>
Revenues:		
Memberships	\$ 7 215	9 000
Fundraising (Concert & Raffle)	4 837	4 400
Grants, Donations, Interest & misc.	2 709	1 700
Sale of Annual Passes	925	1 200
TOTAL	\$ 15 686	16 300 *
Expenditures:		
Promotion & Program Operations	\$ 530	1 100
Website, Memberships &	640	2 000
Fundraising (Concert & Raffle)	1 832	1 700
Education Program: Special	1 618	7 300
Regular Grant to RVCA		10 000
Transfer to RVCA for Passes	800	1 200
TOTAL	\$ 5 420	23 300 *

* **Note:** Difference to be made up by drawing on financial reserves.

News from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

The spring, summer, and fall seasons at Foley Mountain Conservation Area have been busy with a variety of activities. From the busy spring and fall school programs to summer visitors at the interpretive centre, staff have been working hard to continue to provide visitors with an opportunity to experience this wonderful place.

With the warm weather of spring came students and teachers ready to explore Foley Mountain. Approximately 1100 students, 55 teachers, and 250 adult supervisors visited the conservation area to experience our outdoor experiential education programs. The most popular programs included the Beaver Pond Bonanza, Orienteering, A Bug's Life, and the Instincts for Survival game. The program was able to accommodate so many students and provide them with a high quality environmental education experience with help from the Friends of Foley Mountain. The Friends sponsored an application for funding and allocated funds towards hiring Mark Hamilton as a summer education technician. Mark brought with him experience as a pre-service teacher and years of enjoying the outdoors as a resident of the Township of Rideau Lakes.

Although the summer season was wetter than usual, it did not stop tourists and local residents from visiting Foley Mountain to enjoy the trails, picnic areas, beach, and interpretive centre. The Foley Mountain Interpretive Centre was again open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays. This year, an added attraction was the Children's Nature Discovery Centre. This Friends of Foley Mountain initiative features displays of animal tracks, local tree species, and live animals as well as a puppet theatre, computer learning station, and art station. In addition to the Discovery Centre, education staff offered family nature programs on Thursday and Saturday mornings. Program covered a variety of topics including pond ecology, orienteering, tree identification, and butterfly garden planting. Over 200 visitors participated in this program series and we are looking forward to providing these types of programs in 2009.

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Wheelchair Accessible Ramp Opening Ceremony



Pictured (from left to right) are Jim Ellis, RVCA; Marty Hawkins, Lion's Club; Jim McGlade, Lion's Club; Bob Lavoie, Lion's Club; Bob Thompson, Lion's Club; Sandy Cameron, FOFM chair. Carmel McCartney and Jim Attack are seen in the background.

The official opening of the wheelchair accessible ramp at the Interpretive Centre was held on September 17th with representatives of the Lion's Club, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Friends of Foley Mountain officiating at the ribbon cutting ceremony. Materials for the ramp were provided by the Lion's club and the installation was completed by RVCA.

Walking Club 2008



Carmel McCartney (centre) and visitors pose before setting out on the trails.

FOFM volunteer Carmel McCartney organized and led a Walking Club for visitors to Foley Mountain Conservation Area. Participants enjoyed great company while walking the trails of Foley Mountain.



**FRIENDS OF
FOLEY MOUNTAIN
2009
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

(Please complete in ink)

- Annual Member: (\$25)
 Contributing Member: (\$50)
 Supporting Member: (\$75)
 Sustaining Member: (\$100)
 Patron: (\$200)
 Corporate Member: (\$25)
 Corporate Sponsor: (\$50)
 Corporate Patron: (\$200)

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: () _____

Email Address: _____

Prefer Email

All members receive a tax receipt and at least two newsletters per year.

Patrons' names (unless otherwise requested) are placed on our Patrons Board at the Spy Rock Parking Lot.

Corporate Sponsors and Corporate Patrons receive framed membership certificates with annual seals to show renewal.

PLEASE NOTE: Membership does not include free access to Foley Mountain Conservation Area.

To purchase an RVCA Conservation Area 2009 Annual Pass please add \$25 to your membership fee.

Write your vehicle licence number(s) here:

This pass allows access to all five RVCA Conservation Areas.

Cheque or Money Order payable to:

Friends of Foley Mountain

Please send your form and payment to:

Friends of Foley Mountain

P.O. Box 244

Westport, ON K0G 1X0



**Butterfly
Garden**

**August
2008**

Volunteers help with the planting of a new butterfly garden at Foley Mountain's Interpretive Centre.

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As the cool weather of fall began to approach, planning and preparation for a busy fall season were well under way. This fall marked the first Children's Water Festival at Foley Mountain. Just shy of 140 junior students arrived at the conservation area on September 30th to learn about all about water. This is a free program for schools in the Rideau River watershed. It featured 14 water discovery stations that students and adult supervisors visited throughout the day. Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Staff and local volunteers (including members of the Friends of Foley Mountain board of directors and staff from Camp Iawah) staffed the stations. In addition to this new program, fall outdoor education programs have been in high demand with the majority of October being booked for school visits to the park. The school programs are not the only things that have been attracting people to park this fall. Along with school groups, the beautiful weather over Thanksgiving attracted hundreds of vehicles and their passengers to the park to enjoy the beautiful fall colours.

With fall quickly winding down and winter quickly approaching, conservation authority staff will begin to prepare the park for the colder weather. However, the park remains open all year round and education programs will continue throughout the winter months. With a generous donation from the Friends of Foley Mountain, we are now able to offer a new snowshoeing program and hope to encourage teachers and students to brave the winter weather for an adventure "on the mountain".

For questions about programs and activities at Foley Mountain Conservation Area, contact Rebecca Whitman at 613-273-3255 or rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca. You can also find information about Foley Mountain online at www.rideauvalley.on.ca.