

# The Rattler



## President's Message

ISSUE #1, 2022

### Grounded in Nature

In the chaotic world of humanity, nature grounds us. We observe the slow revolution of seasonal change, from winter to spring, a shift still mired in snow on the Peninsula. The ice on the Bay reverberates with expansions and contractions in the warming days and chilling nights. The snow records the evidence of a host of animals on the trails including otter, coyote, grouse, turkey, beaver and more. The woods are alive! Looking up, we see more sun and blue sky through the clouds. On sunny days, the shore birds make their appearance, soaring along the Bay's escarpment. The fox trots down the trail with its new mate. (Apparently, all that good singing was successful!) Taking our cue from nature, the Peninsula Club's programs are waiting to burst forth in the weeks ahead. Following Ontario Health policies, we will gladly transition to in-person gatherings. We will recognize six long-term volunteers through the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards – six amazing individuals who have significantly contributed to the foundation of our remarkable club. We will expand our connections with local Peninsula communities through school programs and through planned partnerships with organizations like Ontario Nature, to enrich local conservation efforts through joint activities like a May BioBlitz. Bruce Trail Conservancy securement of the optimal route on the Peninsula continues with an announcement of exciting land acquisitions. We are grateful to the BTC for the provision of two BTC trail ambassadors for the summer, who will support our conservation and communication efforts in the field. On behalf of myself and the board, we look forward to putting our best foot forward in the upcoming year as we continue our journey, together, along the Trail.

*Tamara Wilson*



*Otter belly slides along the shores of Cottrill Lake.*

*Photo by: Tamara Wilson*

Be sure to check out page 13 for more fun prints in the snow

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Any articles or stories of interest?  
 Deadline for submissions to next  
 Rattler: August 7, 2022

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**Correction**

The November 2021 issue incorrectly identified the length of the Cape Chin Meadows Side Trail as 6.3 kilometres and included a photograph of an outdated sign. The length of the Cape Chin Meadows Side Trail is 7.4 kilometres.

## Clearing the Way

The Peninsula section of the Bruce Trail has over 160 kilometres of main trail and 101 kilometres of side trails, with literally thousands of trees lining these beautiful hiking corridors. Did you ever wonder how the trails always seem to be clear of fallen trees? Each year, a veritable army of chain sawyers and crew volunteers work hard to hike these trails and safely clear them (while also having a bit of fun)! Our PBTC section of the Bruce Trail is particularly prone to hazards like broken branches, dead-fall, and trees that are in danger of falling onto the trails. In most areas, the peninsula is covered by a very thin layer of topsoil over solid rock. The diverse mix of both softwood and hardwood species that grow there have shallow root structures that don't always provide tenacious support for these towering trees. Combine this with heavy exposure across the peninsula to punishing winds from every direction, heavy snowfall, thick ice and aging forests, and what you get are fallen trees, and many more that are rotten or ready to topple over. In addition, many trees are infested with insects, which reduce the structural integrity of the wood and make them prime targets for pileated woodpeckers, which cause significantly more damage. Even busy beavers in some areas leave many tree trunks partially chewed and in danger of falling over. All combined, these factors create an ongoing demand for forest management to keep our trails clear and safe.

But how do we know where the trees are downed or otherwise need attention? Trail captains, hike leaders, random hikers and our cutting crews report issues when they observe them. Typically, hikers send an email to [pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com](mailto:pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com) along with a picture of the tree and its location on the trail, with either mileage, GPS or “what3words” co-ordinates. This helps our chainsaw crews know what to expect and where, and how to determine the most efficient route to get in and out of the trail after completing the job. Our PBTC maintenance co-ordinator (Tom Hall) keeps a database of all reported trees, and arranges for volunteer crews to work with sawyers like Laura Browne or Rich Moccia, pictured at right. Our teams responded to 119 work party requests in 2021 alone, many of which involved cutting trees —

826 in total! All the cut timber is moved well clear of the trail and left in the forest to decompose naturally.

Cutting trees safely and efficiently requires a lot of experience, and can be dangerous work without proper skills training. It's a long way from medical support if you get injured in the bush. Accordingly, only PBTC volunteers who have taken the approved BTC chainsaw safety course are permitted (and insured) to cut trees on the Bruce Trail, and new sawyers will often work with experienced mentors for a while before venturing out with their own crews. Our teams develop a strong bond — working together, and making friendships that last a lifetime.

We deal with a wide variety of tree species on the peninsula. Spruce, cedar, pine, beech, cherry, maple, ash, birch and many other species make up the mixed forests of the Saugeen Bruce. Different tree species sometimes require different cutting techniques, which makes each tree job a unique problem to solve. Getting each one down safely and efficiently is the guiding mantra of all of our chainsaw crews.

When the day is done, the gear is packed up and we head for home, leaving the trails clear and safe for all future hikers to enjoy.

*Rich Moccia, Tom Hall and Laura Browne*



*more photos & info on page 4*

## Clearing the Way



A hard working pileated woodpecker. The “Paul Bunyan” of birds.



Beavers sometimes leave trees like this.

Above: Sawyer Rich Moccia examining the dedicated work of a pileated woodpecker. These cavities weaken the structural integrity of the tree. This one was close to the trail and had to be cut down for safety.

**Editor’s Note:** If you’re interested in volunteering for trail maintenance, we would love to hear from you. Get it touch at [pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com](mailto:pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com)

### Trees by the numbers in 2021

• work party requests	119
• trees cut or cleared	826
• volunteer hours worked	555
• sawyers and crew	38
• kilometres of trail covered	100s
• species of trees cut (at least!)	20
• new chainsaw certifications	10

Sawyer Rich Moccia sizing up a badly hung up, big old white birch tree.



Sawyer Laura Browne trimming back a large trunk hanging over the trail.



Packing up at day’s end and heading back to the trailhead.



## Congratulations to Ontario Volunteer Service Award Recipients

Peninsula Bruce Trail Club (PBTC) has nominated six of our committed volunteers for the Ontario Volunteer Service Award. This award recognizes volunteers for providing dedicated service to an organization. The following people have all volunteered for about 25 years or more (in one case, the volunteer has been involved with the club for over 50 years!). We are extremely grateful for the contributions they have made to the club and congratulate them on their awards. Here are the recipients:

### Pat Barton

Pat has focused her volunteer efforts for PBTC on land stewardship and trail maintenance. She's been a land steward for over 25 years and can be counted on when the call goes out for volunteers for work parties. Here are some words from Pat on her land stewardship experience:

*A chance meeting with Jim McDonald on a summer evening in 1996 was the beginning of my land steward experience. Jim had just initiated the project and his enthusiasm was infectious.*

*The first challenges were two small properties in the Hope Bay area for which I was partnered to work with Don Irish. We set out to find our boundaries and markers with the map and a trundle wheel. We worked hard on several occasions but two markers we could not locate. Then one day a Peninsula Club member, who I had not met, arrived with this new high-tech equipment, a GPS!! In a few clicks the markers were found — Don and I were not close. That was my first meeting of many more with John Greenhouse and I still chuckle when I remember the occasion.*

*My favourite property was Haddock, no longer part of Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC) land. It covered approximately 35 acres of diverse terrain including a wonderful stand of hardwoods.*

*I have met many interesting people among the land stewards and made unexpected friends with whom I look forward to meeting every summer. I'm sure I now have the smallest property, Cornell, in the Peninsula section but I hope to keep at it as long as I can get up to the Bruce three times a year.*



*Pat Barton (right) is working hard on the trails with fellow volunteers Donna Dilschneider (left) and Susanne Smith (middle)*

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*Ontario Volunteer Service Award Recipients (cont'd)*

**Tony Barton**

Tony's volunteer work has focused on land stewardship and trail maintenance. He's a member of the intrepid Stew Crew and a search of the archives finds frequent emails from Tony as he tries to organize the Stew Crew into outwitting the beavers who are flooding the trail! Here's Tony's Bruce Trail story:

*We found the Bruce Peninsula as summer visitors from Kingsville in 1980 and, in spite of damp weather, fell in love. We found our dream property on the north shore of Sky Lake in 1981 and I spent the next six summer holidays building our house here.*

*With a background of hiking in North Wales and the English Lake District, how could I not be drawn to the Bruce Trail? (Living in Kingsville I had no idea that there was such country so near us.)*

*In 1996, now retired, I developed a plan to solo the Queenston to Tobermory end-to-end which I started and completed during 1998 (a whole other story which was published in Bushwhacker Magazine in June/July 2000).*

*So, with no regrets, Joan and I made the Peninsula our permanent home in February 2005 — a real opportunity to become part of the community. As a member of Bruce Peninsula Environment Group (BPEG) I met the wonderful Don MacIlraith and, in 2010, became part of his Bruce Trail stewardship group. Don is now in London but his group has lived on as "The Stew Crew" under the successive*

*leaderships of Bob Cunningham and now Mark Schantz. In my time, Stew Crew has primarily spent its weekly Tuesday mornings (not in winter) with a variety of low and mid-tech tools hunting often long-forgotten survey bars. The necessary bushwhacking which this entails has been one of my favourite aspects of the role — and it's such a triumph when we finally unearth a 100-year-old bar! We do also engage in various other projects, mostly interesting rather than unpleasant, but always afterwards find a suitable venue for lunch. Great company and a great experience which I hope to continue for a while yet ....*

*I don't really understand why I merit this award except, perhaps, for staying the course all these years, but am honoured to accept it.*



\* \* \* \* \*



**Barry Eveleigh**

Barry has volunteered as a trail captain and sawyer, and on a variety of trail maintenance projects. In 2006-2007, after the BTC had acquired the Haddock property, he was part of the team that removed and disposed of an old cottage on a concrete foundation, restoring the area to a natural foundation and enhancing the trail in the Hope Bay area. In 2008, he led the work crew making much needed repairs to the boardwalk between Cape Chin south and north. He cut the lumber, brought it in on tractor as far as he

could go and walked much of the lumber the final two kilometres to the work site. Here are some words from Barry on volunteering for PBTC:  
*I highly recommend the PBTC for anyone wishing to volunteer. It gives you a chance to get out on the trail and experience nature up close and a chance to get the feeling of accomplishment after completing various projects such as a bridge over a stream or clearing a trail through the bush. It also gives you an opportunity to meet great people who also want to contribute to preserving our trail and the escarpment.*

### Brian Keaveney

Brian has volunteered for over 25 years as a trail captain, land steward, and for many years served on the board of directors. He was the editor of The Rattler newsletter and was president of the Friends of the National Park. Like so many committed volunteers, he does not limit his work to the PBTC. He has received recognition from Athletics Canada and Athletics Ontario for his officiating in athletics.

When informed of the nomination for the Ontario Volunteer Service Award Brian stated: "The Bruce trail and nature have been my passion since I started taking students to Cyprus Lake and the trails of the Bruce starting in the early 70s." He also humbly acknowledged, "My wife is my greatest supporter and assistant on the trails."



Brian and Barbara Keaveney

\* \* \* \* \*



Norma Piggott with daughter Diana and sons Stephen (L) and Andrew (R)

### Norma Piggott

Norma has been a member of the Bruce Trail for over 50 years! She and her husband Michael were trail captains and performed other trail maintenance for over 30 years. When they retired from that role, they continued as members and donors. Here are Norma's reflections on volunteering and sharing the love of the trail with friends and family and preserving it for the future:

*My husband and I joined the Bruce Trail Club in 1970 and hiked the sections of the trail near Toronto where we lived. We took family and friends for hikes also. After camping and hiking on the Bruce Peninsula, we joined the Peninsula section. We, along with our student sons, helped Ross Maclean and his crew to clear the trail at Gunn Point. We volunteered to maintain the section of trail at Hope Bay, which we did for over 30 years. We also helped with other work parties. Our children and grandchildren love the Bruce Trail and go for hikes whenever they are staying with us. The last one was there at Christmas and hiked while recovering from COVID. We contributed with time and donations in order to preserve this priceless gem. What would we do without the trail to hike on? We hope that it will be preserved.*

## Jim Wadleigh

As a volunteer for PBTC, Jim has done it all. He was club president in 1994, and served in a number of other roles on the board including trail director, National Park representative, newsletter editor and land stewardship director. The archives tell us that he was a participant in a meeting in Guelph in 1993 that revitalized the club after it had lost its last executive.

But he didn't limit his volunteerism to the executive roles; he was a hike leader, website creator and event coordinator. Most recently he was seen with his loppers clearing the trail at the new Cape Chin property. Here are some of Jim's thoughts on volunteering:

### *VOLUNTEERS ARE SELFISH*

*I'm pretty sure that many people volunteer in part to feel good. It feels good to help build something physical like the Bruce Trail, a source of pride and enjoyment for a lot of people. It feels good to know that you might be remembered for building something that will be enjoyed by your grandchildren and others. It feels good to have a clear purpose that drags you out on days when you are feeling lazy. It feels physically good to not only hike, but "hike with loppers." It feels good to see and appreciate details as you make decisions. And it feels good to work with positive people who share a goal.*

\* \* \* \* \*

*Yup. Volunteering is selfish. But it's a good kind of selfish.*



\* \* \* \* \*

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## Conservation Matters

Spring is in the air as I write this — 21°C down south in Guelph. I am sure that everyone is looking forward to getting back on the land. (It's also St. Patrick's day — so cheers!)



In conservation news, Bruce Trail Conservancy staff are just finalizing the stewardship plan for our Cape Chin Nature Reserve. This includes substantial tree planting by St. Williams Nursery, funded by a Government of Canada grant (part of the Climate Action Plan). We are also working to finalize plans for the cliff-top house and some additional planting.

The latest BTC Magazine has a follow-up article on the elms that were planted last fall (from the University of Guelph's Gosling Research Institute for Plant Preservation), including a picture of Peninsula volunteers planting. I'll try to get the other pictures on Facebook.

This issue brings another entry in the BTC's "10 Most Un-Wanted" list of invasive species. Thanks to BTC ecologists Brian and Adam for their help with this.

#3 on our list is garlic mustard (see details on the following page). It is found on several BTC properties on the Peninsula (Bull Homestead for sure). If you find this plant or have other concerns about BTC properties please contact Stewardship Director Mark at [mshantz56@gmail.com](mailto:mshantz56@gmail.com)

*John Whitworth*

## Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria officinalis*)



Photo: J. Marko Dunn



Photo: R. Gagnon

### Distinct Physical Features:

- roughly triangular-shaped, coarsely-toothed leaves with garlic odour when crushed
- leaves alternate on stalk
- cluster of white flowers at the tip of the stalk
- biennial: first year growth restricted to basal leaves; flowers in its second year with each plant producing hundreds of seeds

### Typical Habitat:

- roadsides, waste places, woodlands, forests, trail edges

### Species Significance:

A non-native aggressive invasive, garlic mustard invades forests, first colonizing areas of disturbance such as forest edges, then spreading. Once established, it multiplies rapidly and outcompetes native plants on the forest floor, thus displacing them.

\* \* \* \* \*

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# SPRUCE UP THE BRUCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, May 7, 2022

Spruce Up the Bruce day is an opportunity for our trail captains and land stewards to provide “hosting trails on” maintenance and tune-up to our club’s trails and managed lands.

Helpers and first-time volunteers are always welcome — no experience required!

If you want to join a work crew, please email: [trailreportsbtc@gmail.com](mailto:trailreportsbtc@gmail.com) to indicate your interest and find out where to meet your work party.

Returning to our past tradition, we will hold our annual general meeting in the late afternoon on Saturday, May 7 at Summer House Park, Miller Lake.

The event will feature a pizza and potluck dinner starting at 4 p.m. and finishing by 6 p.m., providing a good chance to visit with friends, new and old.

The AGM will run from 6 p.m. for approximately an hour. Meeting materials will be distributed by email prior to the meeting.

Hand-made wood-fired pizza will be provided, but please bring your own beverage, plate and cutlery. We would appreciate it if you would bring a salad or dessert to share.

We are extending an invitation to the pizza dinner to all our landowners hosting trail on their property. We hope you can join us so we can personally thank you for your continued generosity.

Summer House Park  
197 Miller Lake Shore Road, Miller Lake  
519-795-7712

Stop at the park front gates for direction to the recreation hall and parking areas.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Peninsula Bruce Trail Club needs YOU!

Are you enjoying your membership in the Bruce Trail Conservancy? If so, you have many volunteers to thank for your experience — trail captains, land stewards, hike leaders, and many others. We would like to ask you to consider if you have the time to play a leadership role in our club. We are currently recruiting new members for our board of directors. The board organizes all our volunteer activities, manages our relationships with local communities and First Nations, and liaises with the Bruce Trail Conservancy’s board of directors and management. Joining the board is a way to meet wonderful people and to learn skills which will benefit you and many others.

If you think you might be interested, or if you would like to learn more about the opportunity, please send a message to [pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com](mailto:pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com). We will be in touch shortly!

Thank you for your interest,  
John Grandy  
Chair, Nominating Committee

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## Community Foundation Grey Bruce Funds Otter Lake Birding Platform

Community Foundation Grey Bruce supports Grey Bruce residents through grants to community projects by non-profit organizations and scholarships, bursaries or awards to students.

Funds from a grant paid for the materials required to build an 8-by-6 foot bird viewing platform which was constructed and installed by PBTC land stewardship volunteers at Otter Lake Nature Reserve, located on Cape Chin Road North. The area is easily accessed by a short hike along the Otter Lake Side Trail. Bruce Trail Conservancy ecologists are developing interpretative signage which will be installed this year, and will assist the public in learning about wetlands and the diversity of bird species found here.

Explore this wonderful wetland on one of the PBTC migration monitoring hikes during March and early April, or explore the area on your own and stay awhile to enjoy the view from the bird viewing platform.

Thank you to Community Foundation Grey Bruce for providing the funds for this initiative.



Peninsula Bruce Trail Club “Stew Crew” admires the installation of a bird viewing platform at Otter Lake Nature Reserve last spring, made possible by the Community Foundation Grey Bruce. Mark Shantz, Bob Cunningham, Tim Wilson and Doug Miller.

*photo: Tony Barton*

## Hey Kids (and adults) – Can You Help Identify These Tracks in the Snow?

We live at the edge of the woods. We are aware of the wild creatures that share the landscape with us but seldom meet them. The odd fox will appear, following its path across our yard. Porcupines waddle up to the house occasionally. The ever present, not at all shy chipmunks are everywhere, especially around the firepit when we cook outdoors in the summer. The red squirrels and wild turkeys come for the frozen, fermented apples still clinging to the trees or on the ground at their base. But the majority of the activities are unseen by us – the time when you can tell there are lots more creatures about is in the winter. Going for a walk each morning you get to know who was prowling about in the night, the paths

they follow and the pace they are moving at by their tracks in the snow, especially when there has been a fresh snowfall in the late evening. Here are a few tracks that we have taken photos of – we haven't identified all of them but some are very familiar. There are answers to the ones we know (on page 18) – but perhaps you can fill in the gaps for us and identify the ones that are a mystery by sending your answers to:

[pbtctherattler@gmail.com](mailto:pbtctherattler@gmail.com)

And, one of our favourite books is *Animal Tracks Ontario* – we often take photos of tracks and then consult the book once we get home to the warm fire.

*Jan & Jim at Rush Cove*



Photos by Jan MacKie & Jim Kuellmer

## Hiking News

Peninsula Bruce Trail Club hikes are open to Bruce Trail Conservancy members and non-members.

You can find hike descriptions and registration access here: <https://hikes.brucetrail.org/>

The club is still building its hike schedule for this spring and summer so check back often.

### Winter Hikes

Thanks to hike leaders Marg Glendon, Fran Turner and Tamara Wilson for offering hikes this winter. February was heart month and PBTC offered a series of small group, short distance hikes to support body and mind! And in March and April, PBTC migration monitor hikes provided a chance to see the early signs of spring — including some of the early bird arrivals. The migration monitor hikes continue until April 7 so it's not too late to register.

Given winter weather on the Peninsula, a couple of hikes had to be cancelled, but with snowshoes, icers and winter clothing, hike participants enjoyed the hikes that could proceed.

*Photo at right : L to R - Brad McMillan,  
Tim Wilson & Sara McMillan*



### Peninsula Section End-to-End

The Peninsula Club has received lots of interest in a guided Peninsula section end-to-end. So why aren't the hikes on the hike calendar? We're looking for a volunteer to organize an end-to-end and once we find one, we'll build the schedule and put the hikes on the calendar. If you have experience as a hike leader and are interested in helping to organize an end-to-end, please let us know at:

[pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com](mailto:pbtgeneralinfo@gmail.com)



## “For the Birds” Art Fundraiser



*Common Raven*

Peninsula Bruce Trail Club member and visual artist, Fran Turner, created 10 paintings of birds which she offered to the club to raise funds to support bird habitat protection and conservation. Photographs of two of Fran’s paintings are shown here. Sales of the paintings raised \$1250. Thanks to Fran for donating these beautiful works of art!



*Sandhill Cranes #1*



## The David Blasing Side Trail

Bob Blasing and members of his family at the naming of the David Blasing Side Trail in August 2021 (see the article in The Rattler Issue #3, 2021). From left to right: Bob Blasing, his granddaughters Avalina and Savanna Leone, Bob’s wife Patti, Bob and Patti’s daughter Jessica and her husband Marcello Leone.

## Remembering Doug Sloan

Avid hiker and Bruce Trail volunteer Doug Sloan passed away on December 16, 2021.

He mentored many hikers and always had hiking tales to tell, notably how to hike a double-double. He completed his 50th end-to-end from Niagara to Tobermory in the summer of 2015.

Following that achievement, he stayed actively involved as a volunteer at club activities, and put in many hours with clippers and a mean saw as a trail captain in the Peninsula section. Doug was a committed Bruce Trail Conservancy member, hike leader, trail captain and regular donor, and was an all-round inspiration to others as a Bruce Trail hiker. He will be missed by the many friends he made on the trail. The Rattler, Issue #2, 2015 included a profile of Doug after he completed his 50th end-to-end. The following is a condensed version of that profile:

*Sloan started his journey in April 1992, by resolving to complete the nine 25th Anniversary hikes offered by the Bruce Trail Association (now Bruce Trail Conservancy), doing one per week, in expectation of earning a badge for completing all of them. An ice-storm prevented him from completing the third 25 km hike of the series so he turned his attention to the Niagara, Blue Mountain and Sydenham Club end-to-ends instead. His first Bruce Trail end-to-end was completed that Labour Day but it would be another two years before he would complete his second one.*

*“When I first joined the Bruce Trail Conservancy I had little thought of completing end-to-ends so the thought of doing it 50 times over was never my goal,” said Sloan. “Hiking for me is a pleasurable and often exhilarating activity. The people I have met on the Trail over the years shared my love for nature and the outdoors and I made new friends and saw new places every week. I soon decided that this was an activity that I wanted to continue doing as long as I was able to walk.” ...*

*In May 2005, Sloan came back from spending nine weeks hiking in New Zealand to read that two trail runners were planning to run the entire Bruce Trail in 15 days that coming September. This spurred Doug to see how fast he could do the Trail in continuous hiking and he finished a double traverse in 31 days all-the-while recovering from a car-door-slam to the shin injury. He rested eight days and then did a second double traverse in 29 days. This he describes as his “double-double” adding four end-to-ends to defend the credibility of hikers versus trail runners.*

*Doug soon found himself passing the record of 37 Bruce Trail end-to-ends set by his mentor and role model Nick Ebner before he died.*

*“I started to ask myself how many I would finish before quitting. I still did not have a specified goal but 50 end-to-ends seemed like a good place to stop recording my efforts and consider myself retired,” says Sloan. “The Bruce Trail is infinitely varied and I doubt that I will ever quit hiking it until they tie me into a wheelchair.”*



## Another Successful Christmas Ornament Fundraiser

Peninsula Bruce Trail Club's second Christmas ornament sale raised about \$1850 to protect bird habitat on local Bruce Trail Conservancy nature reserves, and promote education about bird species at risk on the Saugeen (Bruce) Peninsula. The 2021 ornament was the Black-capped Chickadee. With the guidance and support of fused glass artist Susan Miller from Passionate Glass in Owen Sound, PBTC volunteers created these pretty handmade ornaments. A big thank you to Susan Miller for donating her time and talent, to Marg Glendon for coordinating the effort, and to the volunteers who helped to create the ornaments.

We can't wait to see what bird will appear for Christmas 2022!!




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We would love to hear your Tales from the Trail. Send us your stories to [pbttotherattler@gmail.com](mailto:pbttotherattler@gmail.com) and we will share them in future issues of The Rattler. If you have any photos to include please send them as a jpeg at highest resolution possible.



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