



Grand River  
Conservation  
Authority



The Grand:  
A Canadian  
Heritage River

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*The Canadian Coast  
Guard icebreaker Griffon  
is an unusual sight on the  
Grand River. It was at the  
mouth briefly in March.  
Photo: Dave Schultz*



## Floods are nature's way to keep the river healthy

By Janet Baine  
GRCA Communications Specialist

For the third time in over a dozen years, an icebreaker was called to the mouth of the Grand River in mid-March to carry out an important task.

At 71 metres long (234 feet), the Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker Griffon has a crew of over 20 and a helicopter landing pad. It is odd to see such a large vessel on the Grand. It was breaking up 12-cm (five-inch) thick ice at the river mouth to prevent flooding.

"The Griffon made three passes at the mouth of the river to break the ice in a V-formation, so that when the ice comes down the river it can break out in a wide form," explains John Bartlett, GRCA water resources technician. A U.S. icebreaker did the job in 2003 and the Griffon's last visit was in 1994, he says. The conservation

authority requests an icebreaker from the coast guard only when it is necessary.

Ice jams are one of several causes of spring floods and the threat of flooding has been high this year. Last fall was the fourth wettest since the GRCA started keeping records in 1939 and this left the ground saturated. When cold weather hit in mid-January, the ground froze solid, not thawing until mid-March. The combination of a long, wet fall followed by an extended deep freeze led to a high risk of flooding this spring, a situation that has been closely monitored by GRCA staff. Heavy spring rain would put the river at risk of a major flood that could be a challenge for some communities, but a small amount of flooding is good for wildlife along the river.

"Wildlife has coped with floods for the last 10,000 years since the last ice age," Bartlett explains. "It is worse if small floods don't happen."

Anyone who walks periodically along the rivers within the Grand River system notices that sometimes during the year the rivers narrow to a trickle, and they may even dry up in some places, especially during late summer. At other times the riverside paths can become flooded, or worse, nearby roads and buildings can flood.

The Grand River system is carefully monitored and controlled by dams and reservoirs to ensure that everyone along the river has enough safe water to meet their needs and that communities are protected.

Nature can deal with spring floods much better than humans can, and in many ways, floods are welcome. They bring a surge of water that helps move debris along the river and give it a “spring cleaning.” During spring break-up, large chunks of ice moving rapidly along the river can gouge out new areas for fish to spawn. The swiftly moving water also cleans the gravel beds which are important during spawning season.

Floods can also move nutrient-rich silt from the river to the river banks, where it helps fertilize plants that hold the river banks firm, helping to prevent erosion.

While flooding may not be very convenient for waterfowl, birds can move their nests and even start over again with new eggs. Muskrat and beaver can also usually adapt.

“It is a natural process that helps renew the river in the long term,” adds water resources engineer Stephanie Shifflett. “There is more harm if it doesn’t happen in the natural process.”

Because humans have a much harder time coping, there are many regulations to keep structures away from flood plains and sensitive low-lying areas, she says.

“We try to operate our dams to mimic nature. We try to hold back the water to cut off the peak of the high flows. In the spring we have three times more water coming through than we can store in the reservoirs,” Bartlett says. The dams hold onto water to cut off the peak of the high flow and ensure there is enough water in

the reservoirs to meet the summer demand of the communities downstream.

Closing the dam gates slowly is critical to the natural world, especially the fish who love to spawn in the grassy areas.

“If we don’t close the gates gradually, the fish will get trapped in these areas and die, so we shut them in stages,” Bartlett says. “It is more work to do it that way, but it is better to mimic nature.”

The GRCA balances the needs of wildlife with the needs of people in the way the reservoirs are operated. Of course, there are occasionally years when the quantity of water can overwhelm the river, resulting in trying times.

Anyone can monitor the flow of water in the Grand and its tributaries by visiting [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca) and clicking on “current river flows.” The Grand was the first Canadian river to have state-of-the-art integrated river monitoring information, including computerized real-time river levels, river flows and water quality data available online. It is used by canoeists and fishermen. The next time you spot a flooded footpath or a dry riverbed, you can check for yourself to see why this may have happened.

## What will happen to the students of 2007?

By Janet Baine  
GRCA Communications Specialist

Summer work on the Grand River in 1960 was a major influence in steering University of Guelph professor emeritus Trevor Dickinson into a career as a teacher and researcher in water resources engineering.

“I had no idea what I wanted to do, which I think is not that unusual for a student,” he recalls, adding he was in an agriculture program at the time. “I had grown up in Toronto and had never worked in the country. I don’t think I



*University of Guelph professor emeritus Trevor Dickinson recalls his summer job on the Grand River in 1960 and the significant influence it had on his career.*

even knew what conservation authorities were.”

When Dickinson was hired, the conservation authority employed only a handful of people and the office was in downtown Galt. Dickinson signed farmers up to plant trees, organized planting crews and worked on farm ponds and streambank erosion projects. He recalls co-ordinating the delivery of privies to Rockwood Conservation Area, which the authority had just purchased.

He also spent two months at the conservation authority at Owen Sound that year, and decided to pursue engineering. Dickinson joined the new engineering faculty at the University of Guelph in 1967 and later taught students in an emerging field — water resources engineering.

Some of his former students are now on staff at the GRCA, including Lorrie Minshall (source protection program director), Dwight Boyd (senior water resources engineer) and Joe Farwell (manager of engineering, planning and watershed restoration).

Like Dickinson, Farwell switched to engineering after a summer doing erosion control at another conservation authority, and he then spent a summer at the GRCA working in the soil conserva-

tion program.

Many students who have landed temporarily with the GRCA have been influenced by that experience and continue to work in related careers. In fact, about 23 per cent of current GRCA employees worked here as students, although not necessarily continuously.

Amanda Wong was an environmental science student who worked for the summer as a water quality field technician five years ago. After completing her



Amanda Wong

Masters degree, she began working here again and is now a resource analyst.

“It was fabulous, a great summer job,” she recalls. “We were out in the field all summer collect-

ing data and water samples. It was hot and dry and we were only in the office if it was raining and it didn’t rain much.”

During each of the past two years, the GRCA has hired 235 students. Nearly 200 of them staff the 12 conservation areas. This is where Jack Griffin started out when he was a high school student.

“I had always wanted to be a conservation officer working in the fish and



Jack Griffin

wildlife area,” he says. By being in the right place at the right time after college, he assumed a full-time position at Pinehurst Lake Conservation Area, where he thought he would stay for a

couple of years. Including his summers at the GRCA, Griffin has been on the payroll for 35 years and is the zone superintendent for the parks and nature centres in the southern half of the Grand.

He has hired many students, and says not only do they frequently stay at the GRCA, but many marriages have also resulted. Griffin only has to look to the office of Jim Woods next door to find an

example. Now manager of conservation operations, Woods met his wife Donna when she was hired under the same program as Griffin.



Liz Yerex

Liz Yerex, now a resource planner with the GRCA, started in a summer job as a lifeguard at Brant Conservation Area in 1974 — the year of the big flood. She still keeps a 1968 letter she

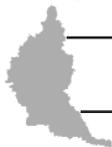
received from the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests at her desk, because it notes “our department hires very few girls in its outdoor positions,” but “if you are thinking about office work there is ample opportunity for girls.”

Yerex was among the first women hired by the GRCA in a technical position — as a biologist — and she has spoken to high school students about opportunities to work outdoors.

She met her husband Warren Yerex, now aquatics resources supervisor, when they were students at the GRCA. Warren always knew he wanted a career in aquatics, having raised almost 30 aquariums of fish in his basement as a child.

A notable summer staffer Griffin recalls supervising during his early days at Pinehurst was Paul Emerson, now the GRCA’s CAO.

“It’s hard to believe I started just about this time 30 years ago. It went by just like that,” Emerson says, snapping his fingers.



## MILESTONES

Milestones are progress or products of *The Grand Strategy* Joint Work Plan.

### GRCA scientists look for ancient river valley

Scientists with the Grand River Conservation Authority are hunting for an ancient river valley, buried deep

below the surface of the Grand River watershed, which might someday become a significant source of drinking water.

The GRCA has received funding from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM) to conduct the three-year study of the ancient bedrock valley which runs from Lake Ontario toward Lake Huron, underneath the central Grand River watershed.

“I am pleased that the Ontario government is able to support this important initiative,” said Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci. “Water is our most precious resource and by gaining a better understanding of groundwater, we may be able to find new sources of water to support expanding municipalities.”

The GRCA will work with geologists from the MNDM’s Ontario Geological Survey, as well as the Region of Waterloo, City of Hamilton, provincial ministries, other conservation authorities, universities and others on various aspects of the study.

“The river valley was carved out of bedrock before the last ice age and could be millions of years old,” said Gregg Zwiers, senior hydrogeologist with the GRCA, who is leading the study. Some studies have been done of the buried valley in the Hamilton area, but there is little knowledge of its features in other locations, said Zwiers.

At its eastern end, in the City of Hamilton, the ancient channel cuts through the Niagara Escarpment where it forms the Dundas Valley. One study done under the Burlington Bay Skyway showed that the valley may be 75 metres below sea level, which would make it about 140 metres below the surface of Lake Ontario.

Advancing glaciers reshaped the landscape more than 10,000 years ago and the ancient river valley was filled in. When the glaciers melted, the water they released carved out the channel of today’s Grand River.



*Scientists are studying the ancient Dundas river valley which may cross the watershed along the arrow.*

Zwiers said the goal of the new study is to discover the dimensions of the valley and what kind of material has filled it in. If it proves to be narrow and deep, and filled with loose material, it could be a significant source of groundwater which could be tapped by municipalities.

“Learning more about the ancient river channel could help scientists learn more about how groundwater moves in the area,” said Zwiers. “Water may still make its way through the ground to the river channel and then flow along the buried valley towards Lake Ontario, although at speeds far less than surface water moves”.

The first part of the study, expected to take until late spring, involves gathering existing data about the bedrock valley from water well records, gas well records, aerial photos and other studies. A contract for this phase has been awarded to a consulting company.

Later this year, the work will move out into the field when the researchers will conduct geophysical seismic surveys to develop a cross-section of the valley in a number of locations.

In 2008 the researchers will conduct drilling at several locations to determine the contents of the valley and the amount of water present. The final phase, in 2009, will involve consolidat-

ing all of the new information and developing a model of the river valley and an analysis as a potential source for municipal water supplies.

## Heritage workshop focuses on Waterloo

By Barbara Veale  
GRCA Policy, Planning & Partnerships

A capacity crowd of more than 200 people attended the 10th annual Heritage Day Workshop and Celebration in February in uptown Waterloo to learn more about the city’s evolution from humble beginnings to one of the world’s top seven intelligent communities.

The event is organized every year by the Grand Strategy Heritage Working Group and this year was co-sponsored by the GRCA and the City of Waterloo. The theme for the day was Exploring Waterloo: Yesterday, Today and Beyond.

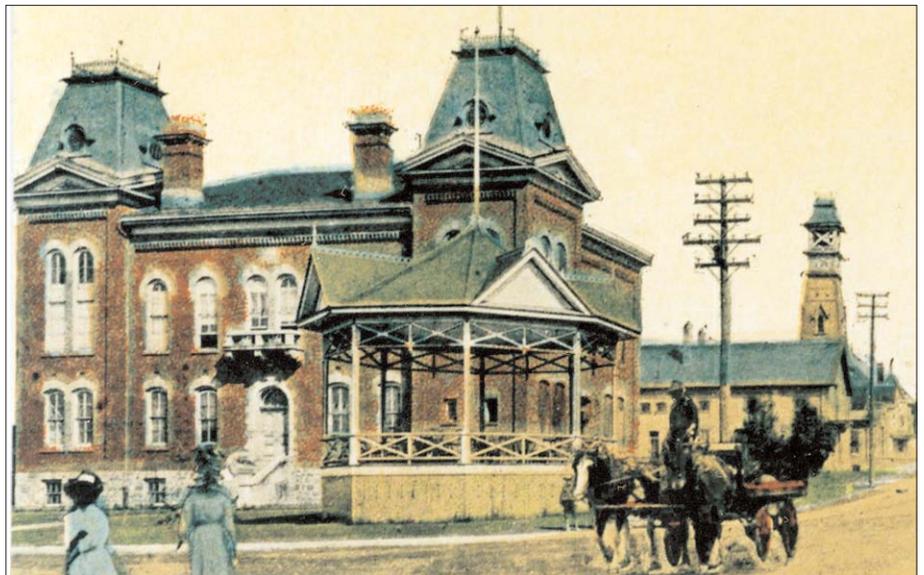
Waterloo has grown from strong industrial roots in the 19th century into a progressive and highly innovative city in the 21st century and it is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

The sound of the whistle used during the early- to mid-1900s at Canada

Barrels and Kegs Ltd. (Canbar) started the event. Although intended to signal the schedule for Canbar employees, nearby residents and workers at other plants also kept track of their day with the sound of this whistle.

Mary D’Alton, chair of the 150th anniversary committee outlined some of the events planned for Waterloo’s milestone celebration. These events include a 150th parade and community picnic May 27 in Waterloo Park and a July 1 Canada Day celebration at the University of Waterloo. Several projects are also underway, including an updated illustrated history book about the city of Waterloo.

The morning session focused on the forces that shaped development and innovation in Waterloo region. Dr. Mary-Lou Byrne explained how the Grand River watershed was shaped through geologic time to create the landscapes we are familiar with today. Scarlett Janusas, an archaeologist, provided a chronological account of the evolution of settlement in the Grand from the Paleo-Indian cultures that inhabited the valley between 9000 and 7000 BCE to the Woodland peoples who resided in the watershed from 1000 to 1600 CE. Scarlett noted that Waterloo



*The Albert St. town hall and fire station is in the MacGregor/Albert neighbourhood and is part of the City of Waterloo’s first designated heritage district.*

*(Photo courtesy of the City of Waterloo Heritage Collection)*

region has archaeological sites where artifacts from all time periods have been discovered — from the retreat of the Wisconsin glaciers to the arrival of the first Europeans.

Dr. Ken McLaughlin spoke about the influence of immigrants on the development of the region. A blend of Scottish, German, Mennonite and Portuguese settlers has created a rich cultural mosaic that is constantly shifting and being enriched by the arrival of new immigrants, he said.

Five concurrent sessions provided participants with an opportunity to delve more deeply into aspects of Waterloo's past, present and future, as well as to learn from case studies.

Warren Stauch, Joleen Taylor and Karen Richardson led three walking tours to highlight some of the historic landmarks which dot the uptown core.

Denise McGoldrick and Stephen Carpenter provided information on new green technologies which are being researched and implemented by the city, such as the new "green" roof at city hall.

Dr. Sharon Jaeger talked about "milestone" histories that mark nostalgic, romantic or mythological events in Waterloo's past.

"Historians need to challenge mythological histories and provide accurate, authentic, critical accounts of the past to more accurately portray history," she said.

Anne Chafe and Tiffany Oliver described some of the city's heritage projects that have brought the community together. She cited the Veterans' Green neighbourhood project near Wilfrid Laurier University as a notable example that brought young and old together. The purpose of this neighbourhood commemorative project was to redevelop the parkette near Wilfrid Laurier University known as Scholars' Green to include features that would celebrate and respect the historical significance of the area and the veterans who lived there, and also generate respect and a sense of community for visitors.

Don Roth and Marg Rowell shared their experience in establishing the city's first heritage conservation district in the MacGregor/Albert neighbourhood.

The afternoon sessions focused on the vision for the future, with Dr. John English outlining the 10 goals to the region's success as put forth by University of Waterloo president David Johnston. These include ensuring the region's colleges and universities are national leaders, attracting transformational public investment in research and development and creating a vibrant cultural centre.

These goals were reflected on by panelists Martin de Groot, Ken Seiling, Geoffrey Hayes and Sunshine Chen, who agreed that common heritage is a foundation for continued success. The community's stories need to be told in a way that is relevant to youth and newcomers. In this way, heritage can blend the old with the new and set the context for innovations and further accomplishments.

The day concluded with a reception at the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, where the exhibit Village Crossroads to Smart City: Waterloo 1857-2007, was on display. The next Heritage Day Workshop is Feb. 18, 2008 in Oshweken, and it will be sponsored by the GRCA and Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.



## LOOK WHO'S TAKING ACTION

### Parkers receive Watershed Award

By Janet Baine  
GRCA Communications Specialist

**T**om and Barb Parker were honoured with a 2006 Watershed Award for the many environmental enhancements they have made to their farm.

These awards are given out each year by the GRCA to organizations and indi-

viduals that make an outstanding contribution to conservation through environmental work.

Most city folk don't realize the amount of time and money farmers put into ensuring drinking water is safe for the communities downstream from their land. The Parkers spent days developing an environmental farm plan, and they also have a complex nutrient management plan to make certain they apply fertilizers in the most environmentally safe and agronomic way. They applied for financial incentives to undertake environmental projects.

The Parkers operate Cove Valley Farm in the corner of Halton that is within the Grand River watershed. The farm has been in the family since 1822, so their commitment runs back generations. Tom's parents live in the home farm and share Barb and Tom's interest in conservation, while their son Adam, 16, helps with chores and is on his way to being the seventh generation caring for the land. Both Tom and Barb also



*Barb and Tom Parker look towards their stream which is now nearly inaccessible behind a barrier made up of trees they planted 15 years ago.*



*Tom Parker feeds the trout in the pond created two years ago. This is a benefit to the abundant water on the farm, which has three water courses running through it and is part of the recharge area for the Arkell Spring that supplies water to the City of Guelph.*

work off of the farm, and this has helped with the cash flow for the costly environmental projects. They grow crops and also produce pigs and cattle.

What is especially unique and challenging about this farm is that three water courses run the full length of the farm, which adds up to about 2,250 metres (7,500 feet) of stream. The two creeks run into Blue Springs, an identified cold water stream, and they are in the recharge area for the Arkell Spring, which provides water for the residents of Guelph.

“All our fields touch the creek, so we have backed off cultivation to create natural buffers,” Tom says.

### **Heritage trees**

In the early days a saw mill and a shingle mill operated on the farm — the shingle mill has been moved to the Country Heritage Park in Milton (formerly the Ontario Agricultural Museum). In spite of the logging done by earlier generations, a visiting expert

recently told the Parkers that they have some heritage trees in a corner of their property that could be 450 years old.

The Parkers began their conservation efforts 27 years ago when they planted 7,000 white pine trees on seven acres of fragile land by the river. Now these trees are mature and help protect the stream.

In 1990 they began no-till farming, but at that time the creeks were open and accessible to the cattle, which crossed over to other fields and pounded down and damaged the bank of the creek.

The next year the Parkers installed fencing and dug up cedar trees from another part of their property that they then planted along the creek. This created a six-metre (20-foot) buffer area on each side of the creek. The buffer is now 15 years old and is one of the more mature buffer zones in the area.

Six years ago the Parkers undertook their most expensive project — a \$30,000 roofed manure storage area. The next year they expanded the concrete yard, and now they can salvage about

200 tonnes of additional manure each year to fertilize their fields. This keeps the manure from running off into the streams and it also cuts the amount of chemical fertilizer they require.

Half of the cost was covered through a grant from the Wellington-Guelph Rural Water Quality program, which is administered by the GRCA. Soon after, the Parkers hosted the Halton agricultural advisory committee farm tour, and the example of their manure storage facility and other environmental initiatives helped influence Halton to start a farm environmental program. The builder of their storage area also received an award for the project.

The Parkers have undertaken many other projects, such as properly decommissioning a well, installing eaves-troughs on all their buildings and upgrading their fuel storage tank. Two years ago, they took advantage of the high water table on their property by creating a pond which is stocked with trout that they feed and harvest.

The Parkers follow their environmental farm plan and are committed to protecting the water that passes through their property. This spring they have several new projects they want to undertake.



*Installing a manure storage area helps keep the streams that run through the Parker's farm clean and gives them 200 tonnes more manure to fertilize their fields.*

## Green energy at nature centres

The GRCA is continuing down the road to educating people about sustainability by featuring solar and wind energy at two nature centres.

Apps' Mill Nature Centre near Brantford launched a green energy project last fall, while a similar project is being launched at the Taquanyah Nature Centre near Cayuga in April.

A wind turbine and a bank of solar panels generate electricity that is stored in batteries and used to power several electrical devices in each of the nature centres. The equipment has monitoring devices that can be observed by students visiting the centres. The generating systems at each nature centre will produce enough power at full capacity to run about seven 100-watt light bulbs for 24-hours a day.

Renewable or "green" energy is replaced at the same rate a it is used. Renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power reduce air, land and water pollution, have economic benefits and don't produce the greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming.

"Concern for our environment has never been higher, and this awareness is being reflected in the number of donations we are receiving for green energy projects," says Sara Wilbur, director of the Grand River Conservation Foundation which has found support for these projects. "The idea of making this technology normal in the minds of children has real appeal, because kids are tomorrow's environmental ambassadors."

S. C. Johnson and Son Limited of Brantford contributed \$25,000 to the project at Apps' Mill Nature Centre, while Ontario Power Generation (OPG) donated funds and in-kind contributions for the Taquanyah Nature Centre project. The Ontario Ministry of Energy's Community Conservation Initiatives program provided \$21,500 to complete the structures on both sites, add interpre-



*The wind turbine at Apps' Mill Nature Centre is part of the green energy project to educate school children.*

tive signs and for curriculum development.

Thousands of students visit these nature centres each year for curriculum-based outdoor programs.

"We plan to continue adding green energy projects where funding allows us to do that," says Steve Gemmell, manager of central services for the GRCA.

These projects are an important way of educating people about the environment and energy conservation.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

### Environmental scholarship deadline May 31

Applications are being accepted until May 31 for the S.C. Johnson Environmental Scholarship.

This \$1,500 scholarship is open to full-time students who have completed the third year or sixth semester of an honours program in a watershed university, or the second year of engineering at Conestoga College.

For further information and an application form, visit the Grand River Conservation Foundation section of the website at [www.grandriver.ca/foundation](http://www.grandriver.ca/foundation) or contact the GRCF at (519) 621-2763 ext. 271.



NOW AVAILABLE

### Updated Water Toolkit

Thinking of starting a native plant garden, wondering what kind of snail your daughter found in the river, or not sure where to find out if funding is available to rehabilitate a stream running through your property?

Answers to these questions and many more are now easy to find thanks to the online Water Toolkit launched at the Water Forum hosted by the GRCA and water managers in the watershed. It has been updated and is now searchable and has been funded by a grant from Environment Canada. The toolkit provides links to helpful websites with innovative solutions to water issues, information on stewardship techniques and available cost-sharing opportunities. Information is organized into four categories: innovations and best management practices; research and case studies; funding sources and incentives; and education and community involvement.

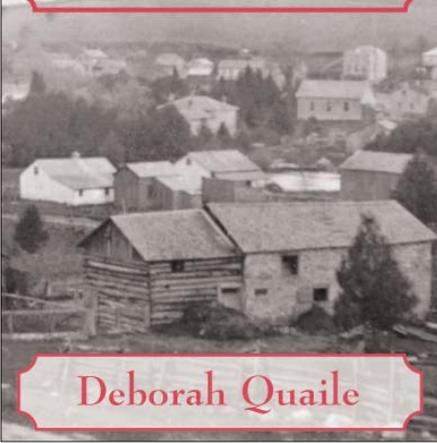
New additions to the toolkit are welcome and can be submitted using the instructions on the website at [www.grandriver.ca/watertoolkit](http://www.grandriver.ca/watertoolkit).

### New Eramosa book

*Eramosa Anecdotes*, a follow-up to *Rockwood: A Mosaic of Memories* by Deborah Quaile was published in March by Wordbird Press.

Beneath the farm fields, woodlots and suburban sprawl in Eramosa township east of Guelph are remnants of industry, houses of worship, aboriginal encampment, memorials, and shadows of the lives that forged the foundation of the old township. From whispers of William Lyon Mackenzie hiding in Rockwood's caves to "rebellious" residents terrifying the people of Guelph with their back-

# Eramosa Anecdotes



Deborah Quaille

## About this newsletter

This newsletter is produced bi-monthly as a communications tool by the Grand River Conservation Authority on behalf of the partners in *The Grand Strategy*. This newsletter can be seen at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca).

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Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of January, March, May, July, September and November. Submissions may be edited for length or style.

Tax deductible donations and sponsorships toward the cost of producing this newsletter are always welcome.

**Publications Mail**  
Agreement #144871

woods ways, Eramosa has always been a place of excitement, discovery, and occasional danger.

*Eramosa Anecdotes* meanders through stories of original pioneers, describing their hamlets and villages, old school-houses, forgotten graveyards and the feisty citizens who dared to be different. Come take a walk in the footprints of the "black dog" and see what spirits haunt

the hills and hollows of this Wellington County township.

The 280-page book includes dozens of heritage and recent photos. It sells for \$24.95 and is available from local independent booksellers or can be ordered online from the publisher. For further information on the book or for scheduled signings, visit [www.word-birdpress.ca](http://www.word-birdpress.ca) or call (519) 665-7872.



## The Grand Strategy Calendar

**Down Under Dam Tour, Sunday, April 8, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Guelph Lake Nature Centre, Guelph.** Go 20 metres (66 feet) under the lake inside the Guelph Lake Dam. Find out how the GRCA uses dams to control flooding, create hydro-electric power and maintain river levels during low-flow periods. Learn the importance of maintaining our wetlands to eliminate the need for future dams. Cost: \$5 per person.

**Sunoco Earth Day Celebration, Saturday, April 28, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., RIM Park, Waterloo.** Plant a tree along Critter Creek or take part in one of the many eco-activities and crafts at this family event. Join in the drumming circle and get in rhythm with the earth or find out about how much water you use in your house.

**Take a Kid Fishing Day, May 12, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Belwood Lake Conservation Area, Fergus.** The event is free for registered children nine to 14 years old, but space is limited to 120 for either a morning or an afternoon session. For more information or to register a child, contact [dstrub@grandriver.ca](mailto:dstrub@grandriver.ca) or call (519) 843-2979.

**Grand River Fishing and Hunting Expo, Friday May 11 to Sunday May 13, Paris Fairgrounds, 139 Silver St., Paris.** The expo will be both indoors and outdoors. For more information, contact Steve or Christine at (519) 442-0077.

**Belwood Lions Pike Derby, May 26 & 27, Belwood Lake Conservation Area, Fergus.** This is a live release derby with numerous prizes and an early bird draw for entries received before May 15. For more information, contact Gerry Ellen (519) 843-2990.

**Second Annual Grand River Conservation Foundation Golf Tournament, Tuesday, June 26 at the Galt Country Club, Cambridge.** The event will honour the late Archie MacRobbie who was a member of the GRCA board for 25 years and served as chair from 1990 to 1997. Tickets are \$225 and include a barbeque lunch, gala dinner, prizes, a partial charitable receipt, and a day of exceptional golf. Register online at [www.grandriver.ca/foundation](http://www.grandriver.ca/foundation). For more information, call (519) 621-2763 ext. 272, or e-mail [ahillis@gref.ca](mailto:ahillis@gref.ca).