

# HULLETT NEWS



## WINTER 2023

## Board of Directors

### *Message from the Board*

**Hello Friends of Hullett Members,**

I would like to thank the volunteer Board of Directors (BOD), staff and most importantly, **our members and volunteers** for another record year for financial membership support. **With 42 new and first time Friends of Hullett (FOH) members** in 2022, our community-based organization continues to grow from a varied base of different user types. The annual **Pheasant Challenge** showed FOH once again that supporters want to see the continued release of pheasants for public hunting opportunities!

This past year saw major infrastructure upgrades with the dredging of the **Butterball Pool and Whistler Pool canoe/kayak channels**. The **Blue Trail bridge** was completed in 2022. As we move ahead in 2023 major projects include reforestation and habitat maintenance. FOH staff will be mentoring 1 high school co-op placement from February to June. Staff have applied for 3 Canada Summer Job positions for 2023.

Excitement is building for the return of the **Annual Spring Charity Dinner and Auction** after a 3 year COVID hiatus. Please see page 4 of this newsletter for details.

**The AGM will be held this spring and final details to be sent out via email in April.** This is your chance as a member to express your ideas and concerns in person. Members can choose to run for Board positions at the AGM as outlined in page 6 of this newsletter.

**Scott Austin** has accepted his contract and will continue to maintain and manage the HPWA, working with volunteers, contractors, summer students and partners. **Ben Elliott** our **Wildlife & GIS Technician** has signed on for his second year and is the backbone of daily operations.

To conclude, I hope you enjoy this **Multi-Use** property and the winter wonders of Hullett. Be sure to read and understand the property regulations as outlined in the revised **User Guide**.

Duane Inkpen  
*Chairman*

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## Membership Renewal

As of December 31, 2022, memberships that were purchased prior to September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 have **expired**.

**For a simple renewal option, you can renew or purchase your membership on our [website](#).**

There are various payment options available, including cash in our drop box at the office gate pictured below, cheque (made out to **Friends of Hullett**), e-Transfer to [fohoffice@tcc.on.ca](mailto:fohoffice@tcc.on.ca) and PayPal!

Funds from your **membership donation** are used for property maintenance, infrastructure upgrades and repairs, trail work and signage.

Please complete the **new simple** auto-fill enabled [Member Form](#) on our website!



## Roads and Parking Lots



Throughout the winter months, accessing Hullett Marsh can be difficult. Interior roads including Front Road, Burns Line, Conservation Road, Bridge Road and Sanctuary Line **do not** receive winter maintenance within the Hullett Marsh boundaries. FOH would like to

remind users to use interior roads at your own risk. **Please respect and follow any road closure that may occur within the Marsh.** These are for your safety.

During the winter, two parking lots will have snow removed from them as staff time and availability permits. These locations are: **40672 Hydro Line Road and 80602 Wildlife Line.** Please be patient with FOH staff as we remove snow from these parking lots.

## Snowmobiles at Hullett

Throughout the winter season, **Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC)** mark trails throughout Ontario, allowing snowmobilers to get and enjoy the outdoors. Specifically, the Huron Trail Groomers Club are responsible for the trails that travel through Hullett and surrounding areas.

FOH staff would like to remind everyone using these trails to **please stay on OFSC marked trails.** Snowmobiles leaving marked OFSC trails create a safety concern and can disturb wintering wildlife. Additionally, to prevent damage to agricultural land, **please stay off of trails deemed CLOSED.**

For more information about OFSC, or to check the status of snowmobile trails, please visit [www.ofsc.on.ca](http://www.ofsc.on.ca)



## 2022 Pheasant Challenge

The **22nd Annual Pheasant Challenge** was another record breaking year and ensured the **2023 pheasant hunt**. FOH would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets and embraced our online **PAYPAL ordering system**.

A huge thank you goes out to our sponsors [Sommers Generators](#) for generously donating the generator and [Clinton Sporting Goods](#) for providing the shotgun and allowing physical ticket purchases at their store.

Breaking last year's record once again, 1093 tickets were sold this year! **Congratulations to our winners drawn on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023!**



**Churchill SXS Shotgun:** Peter Demelo

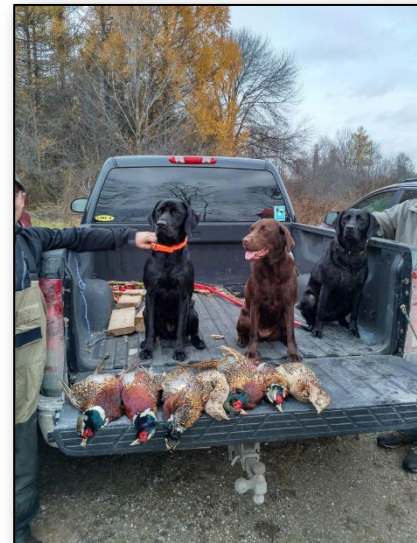
**Briggs and Stratton Generator:** George Ziarko

Over the past season, **1200 pheasants** – supplied by Sarah and Audrey Jackson of [Uplands Pheasantry](#) and Ralph Gerber of [Creekside Pheasantry](#) – were released into **Zone B between September and December**.



## Pheasant Release Program 2023

The release program will continue for the fall 2023 pheasant hunt! **Hunters blew us away in 2022 with their financial support for the program**. With \$2,404 in direct cash donations, \$10,930 from the Pheasant Challenge and proceeds from the INSTAGRAM Auction we have funding for a **1000 - 1200 bird release in 2023**. Each pheasant has a price tag of approximately \$14 per bird plus administration and release costs.



## Vanessa Palmer Award

FOH is now accepting applications for the Vanessa Palmer Award.

To apply, students are asked **to submit a letter explaining their environmental achievements and/or contributions**. The successful applicant will be presented with a **\$200.00** cheque from FOH at our Annual General Meeting.

If you are interested in applying for the Vanessa Palmer Award, please submit your letter to FOH staff via email ([fohoffice@tcc.on.ca](mailto:fohoffice@tcc.on.ca)). Applicants must submit their letters by **April 14, 2023**.

**For more information about the Vanessa Palmer Award and how to apply, click [here!](#)**

## Winter Activities

With winter starting to establish at Hullett Marsh, there are many activities that users can participate in. Since 2 of our parking lots are maintained throughout the winter, some of our trails, including Blue, Yellow, White Green and Purple trails, can all be accessed.



With trails open, users can:

- Snowshoe
- Cross-country ski
- Hike
- Geocache
- Hunt (following Hullett and Ontario Regulations)

Be sure you get out this winter and enjoy what Hullett has to offer.

## Hullett User Tip Sheets!

Friends of Hullett staff have created a couple tip sheets to help users better understand the rules and regulations and also to help answer some common questions so that you can be safe and enjoy your hunting and hiking experiences at Hullett Provincial Wildlife Area.

Below you will find a link to the Hullett Regulations, as well as a Hunting at Hullett tip sheet and a Hiking Hullett tip sheet.

[Hullett Regulations](#)

[Hunting at Hullett Tip Sheet](#)

[Hiking at Hullett Tip Sheet](#)

## FOH Charity Dinner and Auction

FOH would like to thank those who purchased a ticket to the **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Charity Dinner and Auction** for their overwhelming support, as tickets have already **sold out!**

This year's event will be held on **Saturday, April 22, 2023** at the **Bluewater Golf Course** and Chef Devon Tabor of **Bon Vivant Catering** will provide the meal.

If you missed out on getting a ticket, don't worry! You can still support Friends of Hullett and this great event by **donating items** for the **silent and live auctions**. We welcome a variety of items as the more unique and interesting items we have, the more fun the night will be!

If you have something that you think would make a good addition to the auction please email staff at [fohoffice@tcc.on.ca](mailto:fohoffice@tcc.on.ca). **Charitable tax receipts will be issued for all donations.**

### Early Bird Prizes

If you purchased tickets to this event you have been automatically entered into the draw for a **chance to win one of these prizes:**

- \$50 gift certificate to **Clinton Sporting Goods**
- \$50 gift certificate to **Maelstrom Winery**

A green event poster for the Friends of Hullett 8th Annual Charity Dinner & Auction. The poster features a white bird logo at the top. Text on the poster includes: #001, Saturday April 22, 2023, Reception 4pm • Dinner 5:30pm, Live Auction 7pm, Cost \$135 per person with only 85 seats available, Location: Bluewater Golf Course, 77416 Bluewater Hwy., Bayfield, ON. It also lists sponsors: Bluewater Golf Club, West Coast Leisure Sales, and CLINTON SPORTING GOODS.

#001

**Saturday April 22, 2023**  
Reception 4pm • Dinner 5:30pm  
Live Auction 7pm

**Cost \$135 per person**  
with only 85 seats available  
Location: Bluewater Golf Course  
77416 Bluewater Hwy.  
Bayfield, ON

Sponsored By:

Bluewater Golf Club, West Coast Leisure Sales, CLINTON SPORTING GOODS

Friends of Hullett  
8th Annual  
Charity Dinner  
& Auction

## Bluebill & Whistler Canoe Channel Improvements

With years of sediment buildup, the Whistler and Bluebill canoe channels were in dire need of being cleaned out.



With the help and generosity of the **Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH)**, Friends of Hullett was able to clear out the debris and improve the quality of both of these channels.



FOH invested over **\$33,000** into this project and are very grateful to the **OFAH** for their generosity as they provided **\$8,000** in funding to put towards this project. With the knowledge and expertise of both **Vandriel Excavating** and **Merner Contracting**, were able to complete both channels before the weather and marsh conditions rendered the areas inaccessible.



The completion of this project significantly improves the user experience and allows for much easier access via canoe or kayak to other areas of the property.

## Tree Planting & Forestry

With the assistance and guidance of **Treemendous Trees**, Friends of Hullett has invested in planting an



assortment of 25 Kentucky Coffee and Tulip trees in the plantation area located in the Northeast portion of Zone B. These trees will help to recover the stunted forest that currently exists there from a tree plantation project that occurred

many years ago. FOH staff spent considerable time scouting and preparing the area as well as watering and tending the newly planted trees to help ensure their long term viability.

Moving forward, more trees will be planted in areas



*Glossy Buckthorn*

throughout the marsh in areas where the current forest cover is dominated by less desirable and invasive species such as Autumn Olive and Glossy Buckthorn.



*Autumn Olive*

By planting various species of native trees in these areas, FOH is better able to combat the spread of invasive species as well as close in the canopy where there are gaps to create a

continuous forest. Currently, staff are working on developing a planting plan for another Zone B plantation that will be completed as a part of the 50 Million Trees Program and will further help to create a continuous forest within Zone B.

## Friends of Hullett Board of Directors 2023

Are you interested in running for a position on the Board of Directors (BOD) so that FOH can continue in a positive direction? Email us at [fohoffice@tcc.on.ca](mailto:fohoffice@tcc.on.ca) for an application.

- 3 BOD positions are up for renewal/election on Sunday May 28, 2023
- To run for the BOD you **must be a valid member of the FOH** and are required to submit an application expressing your interest to run for the BOD.

Please email your “Application to Run for Director” to David Denyes at MNRF Vineland Field Office.

Please note that applications must be received by David Denyes by May 1st 2023.

**David Denyes**  
**Management Biologist**

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Vineland Field Office  
4890 Victoria Avenue North.  
Vineland Station ON  
LOR 2E0  
289-241-6872  
[david.denyas@ontario.ca](mailto:david.denyas@ontario.ca)



## Connect with Hullett

At FOH, we continue to provide up-to-date information to our users through social media and our website. **Be sure to “Like” us on Facebook and “Follow” us on Instagram.** Links to these accounts, plus the link to our website can be found at the bottom of each page of this newsletter.

## [FOH Membership Form](#)



## 2023 Photo Contest

We want to see your pictures of Hullett Marsh!

From nature walks to family fun, and everything in between, FOH wants to see your best. New or old, member or not, show us what makes Hullett great to you.

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner receives a FREE Hullett Membership AND their winning photo in the next User Guide**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Place Winners receive their winning photos showcased on the cover of the next User Guide**

### Images must:

- Must be in Hullett Marsh
- Depict safe practices
- Not contain gore
- Contain the name of the person entering the photo (John\_Smith.jpg for example)

Send us your pictures of Hullett Marsh to [fohoffice@tcc.on.ca](mailto:fohoffice@tcc.on.ca)

**Deadline is April 30, 2023**



*By entering your photos, you are giving FOH the right to use them (with photo credit given to you)*