



## THE 2008 BRODIE CLUB FIELD TRIP

The annual Brodie Club field trip on June 8, 2008 at the farm of member John Riley on the Fifth Line Mono Twp., just north of the Hockley Valley in the Highlands of Dufferin County.

About 18 members and guests met at the farm at either 8 am or 10 am for morning bird walks, and then again at lunch. In the meantime, Riley led tours to Mono Cliffs Provincial Park, the Niagara Escarpment with its cliff-edge ferns, McCarston Lake, Scotts Falls and to the vicinity of a deep cave where late member Howard Savage and John Riley found, in 1990, the bones of pika, wapiti and marten down 75 metres, with evidence of human habitation. The bones were subsequently dated to about 8,000 BP.

Ron Pittaway compiled a bird list for the Brodie Club's "very enjoyable and successful field trip to John Riley's Hidden Paradise."

### Mono Area Bird List

June 8, 2008

Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Killdeer, Ring-billed Gull, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Cuckoo species (one sounded like a Yellow-billed), Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Red-bellied Woodpecker (best bird of the day, heard by Jeremy), Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Wood Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, \*Tree Swallow (very few), Black-capped Chickadee, House Wren, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Pine Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, Scarlet Tanager, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Baltimore Oriole, American Goldfinch.

\*The very few Tree Swallows and no other swallows, no swifts, etc. agrees with the general decline of aerial foragers reported in the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (2007).

Total Species 61

David Tomlinson had previously offered members a very interesting copy of his 1974 Master Plan for Mono Cliffs Provincial Park. Jock McAndrews sent in a satellite picture of the area and a recent pollen analysis of the McCarston Lake sediments, while Riley sent a chart of area tree diseases. (see attached).

Jim Bendell sent a note – in a breathless style that cannot be improved. "We are working on a study of the alvar next to Almonte. There is a splendid Darwin Symposium at the ROM in the Eaton Auditorium on Friday, June 27, 10:30 to 15:30, free. Five big names are talking, including the Grants who have long term data from the Galapagos. Can we get a Brodie-ite to attend and take notes for our members? I would love to go but we have a prior commitment and gas is a gas. SLFN, Jim"

Any takers?

### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of The Brodie Club will be held in September. See you all there.