

## Office of the President

Note that the GBOS has no President. We need two more members on the board including a President-elect. Our dedicated directors are filling in very well but they do need a helmsman as well as member in charge of education. Do please consider joining us on the Board of Directors.

## Membership renewal time

Please take the time to fill in the membership renewal form and return it to our treasurer, Val Thompson. And pass this newsletter on to a friend.

### Georgian Bay Osprey Society

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### GBOS Board of Directors 2009 - 2010

**President:**

Past President: Sue Russell;.....416 923 4919 705 756 1670

Treasurer: Valerie Thompson.....705 835 2784 705 756 1129

Monitoring chairs: Ric & Sandy Symmes...705 327 7822 705 330 5077

Newsletter editor: Sue Russell.....416 923 4919 705 756 1670

Secretary: Meta Ferguson;..... 905 889 9482 705 756 8981

Data Manager: Ian Ferguson..... .905 889 9482 705 756 8981

Construction: Jane-Anne Campbell.....416 922 8405 705 746 6327

Web Master: Matt Murphy..... 416 482 1717 705 756 3955

Member-at-large: John Hodge..... .416 284 9984 705 756 1730

## Our objectives

- To protect and enhance the habitat of the Georgian Bay Osprey
- To study and survey their life cycle, habits, nesting and habitat
- To promote awareness, appreciation and communication



*“Voice of the Osprey”*

*Newsletter*

*Spring & Summer 2010*

## An early spring brings forth early nesting Osprey

With this wonderfully early spring we are all anxiously awaiting the early return of our birds. I have asked our directors to report on what they have seen since early April and here is what is happening around the Bay.

On April 11th we were in the Freddie channel and the Osprey was on the nest near Franceville. We did not see its mate! *Val*

Ian and I were up at the cottage to deliver our new catamaran and in the short time we were there we did not see any Ospreys on our nest nor on the Ardilaun nest. *Meta*

Our Ospreys have been in residence at least since early April. I've been kayaking over most weekends to check on them. I have a couple of photos, although I missed my big chance of getting a shot of an Osprey carrying a fish because I ran out of space on my memory card! By the time I'd managed to delete some photos, the fish was all mangled and the Osprey flying off into the distance. The Osprey I was talking about was at Tower's Point. I haven't yet seen 2 together, so don't know whether I'm seeing one or both. *Jane-Anne*



*Is this the photo Jane-Anne missed?*

**The Georgian Bay Osprey Society Annual General Meeting  
will be held this summer.  
Watch for the notice coming out in June.**



## Ospreys Return to Tiny Marsh

Last fall, in partnership with MTM Conservation, GBOS installed a new pole and platform at Tiny Marsh to replace a popular nest that collapsed in 2008. We are happy to report that an Osprey couple was seen on the platform in late April. The smaller male perched out on the crosstree supports devouring a fish while the female inspected the platform and complained about the lack of furniture (sticks). MTM Conservation will be reporting on their domestic progress in the coming months. Everyone is hopeful that the new platform will be occupied as the Ospreys are very popular visitors at the Marsh where many children and adults come to learn about nature and marsh habitat.

Sandy and Ric Symmes

## Our Website

Did you know that GBOS has a website? It is designed and maintained by our youngest member of the board, Matt Murphy. He alone, while continuing his graduate degree in Business Administration, produced our very informative and useable website. You can access:

News and Newsletters  
Osprey Information  
Photos from AGM's, etc.  
Monitoring Reports  
Membership Information  
Links of Interest  
History of GBOS  
Contact Information  
Search

**The website address is "[www.gbosprey.ca](http://www.gbosprey.ca)"**



Matt Murphy, MBA

## Mail

We often receive notes and letters from our readers and members. Please keep them coming.

This one arrived during the winter.

Hi Sue;

I received my newsletter last week and was about to discard it this a.m, when I was reminded of something which is probably quite common but, was notable to me as I had never seen an Osprey and an eagle at the same time.

I was trolling in Sand Bay near Dillon one bright cloudless day in early Oct. when I heard something. I looked up to see a mature Bald Eagle soaring at about 200 feet. Then I heard the scream again and noticed an Osprey much higher. The Osprey screamed again and dived at the Eagle which continued to soar with outstretched wings. At the last minute just before the Osprey made contact, the Eagle rolled over and extended his talons upwards and the Osprey braked within 2 to 3 feet of the Eagle. This was repeated twice more, the Eagle appearing quite nonplussed at the interruption. The Eagle appeared to move off to the northeast but the Osprey stayed and fished for a while after that. The nest at the north end of Franklin Island had been vacated weeks earlier by this time so I don't know if the Osprey was resident or not.

## Nest Monitoring Coordinators' Report

Monitoring Forms

The Osprey's have returned to Georgian Bay and are settling into their nest sites for the season. If you are a nest monitor, you should find enclosed a 2010 Nest Monitoring Form for each nest, and a set of Monitoring Tips. If you have any questions or would like to report on a nest near you, please contact us by email at our new email address [gbosprey@gmail.com](mailto:gbosprey@gmail.com), or call us at 705 327 7822.

### Monitors Needed

Each year, a few nest monitors retire or move away and new monitors are needed to maintain continuity in our nest records. This year we need monitors at the following sites:

- Nest 4-111, Lanoka Island, South end 12 Mile Bay/Manitou area,
- Nest 4-112, Lanoka Island, North end, 12 Mile Bay/Manitou area, and
- Nest 5-050, NE of Dillon, near Wawanaisa Resort

If you are willing to check the nest sites periodically and give us a report in September, at the end of the breeding season, we would appreciate your help. It is an interesting and rewarding activity, and requires no particular expertise. If you can help, or know someone who could help, please contact us at the email address or phone number above.

## Telemetry Project

The telemetry project to track the Osprey as they travel south each fall, will begin in a week or two. The radio transmitter tags will be attached to the birds in the spring as the birds are easier to catch at this time. But the transmission from the tags will start in the fall as they begin their flight south. We will keep you posted as we learn the results of the transmissions.