



MARSH HAPPENINGS

11th Annual Minister's Dinner

A record attendance of 185 of Manitoba's corporate leaders joined the Honourable Stan Struthers, Minister of Conservation, at the St. Charles Country Club on Wednesday, February 28, to celebrate the 11th Annual Minister's Dinner Event in support of the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre.

In the last 11 years, the Minister's Dinner has raised nearly \$1 million for education programming at the Interpretive Centre, a partnership



l-r Don Steuber, Neil Downey, Hon. Stan Struthers, Gord Edwards. Don Steuber, President and CEO of Bison Transport Inc. received a special award in recognition of Bison Transport's three-year commitment as the new premier sponsor of the Interpretive Centre.

between Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) and the Province of Manitoba.

In his welcome address to guests as Event Patron, Minister Struthers said the Interpretive Centre "is a model partnership between a government and a conservation organization," serving as "a showcase for education and outreach. Your generous support allows the Centre to continue developing and designing new, innovative programs."



l-r Bill Burnett, Q.C., Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP, Neil Downey, DUC Vice President, Michael Sinclair, TDS, Jim Ripley, TDS, Barry McTavish, TDS, John Stefaniuk, TDS, Gord Edwards DUC Exec. VP. Michael Sinclair accepted a special award in recognition of TDS's nine years as Minister's Dinner Sponsor.

National Aboriginal Day

On June 21st, 2007, Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre invites you to help celebrate our wetlands and environment in a unique way. To honor National Aboriginal Day, the Interpretive Centre has incorporated special activities and guest speakers into its regular line-up of programming. Activities include plant walks, bannock bakes, tipi talks, crafts, and games. Tales of the Ojibway trickster, *Nanabosho*, will also be shared throughout the day, as children's author Joe McLellan delights the crowd with his storytelling.

By celebrating and sharing the culture and teachings of Canada's Aboriginal people, this event is an opportunity to promote respect for all living things. We hope you will join us on June 21st to discover the accomplishments and history of Aboriginal people in a wonderful natural setting.

MOTHER'S DAY WILDFLOWER SALE

Why give Mom cut flowers when she could have a beautiful carpet of natural flowers growing all summer long in her garden? Support the Interpretive Centre this Mother's Day weekend and buy Mom some beautiful native flowers. These flowers not only rival non-native flowers in beauty but they are better adapted to our climate and type of soil. As a bonus, they will attract

butterflies and birds to your backyard!

Beautiful flowers such as Canada Anemone, Philadelphia Fleabane, Stiff Goldenrod, Yellow Coneflower and Wild Bergamot are a very colourful addition to any garden. Make sure to drop by the Interpretive Centre and pick up some beauties for Mom. She will love you for it.

MEMBERS

Oak Hammock Marsh Members Go Snaky!



Join us on Saturday, May 12 for a special "members only" day trip to the Narcisse Snake Dens. You don't want to miss out on this adventure. So pack a picnic lunch, dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Please call to confirm your attendance.

MARSHY QUIZ

- Which of the following is/are true?
 - Toads have thicker skin than frogs.
 - Toads move by walking rather than jumping.
 - Toads have large glands that can be toxic to predators.
 - A and C.
 - All of the above.
- Which warbler is thought to be the most abundant in North America?
 - Common Yellowthroat
 - Cerulean Warbler
 - American Redstart
 - Black-throated Blue Warbler
 - Kirtland's Warbler



- Historically, parts of the Prickly Wild Rose have been used for:
 - Making jelly
 - Making tea
 - Salads
 - All of the above
 - None of the above
- True or False? A porcupine can "throw" its quills when threatened.
- Why do most insects have colourless, green or yellow blood rather than red blood?
 - They do not like the colour.
 - Red does not camouflage as well.
 - Their blood does not usually carry oxygen.
 - All of the above.
 - None of the above.



- What is a group of ducks called?
 - A gaggle of ducks.
 - A puddle of ducks.
 - A flock of ducks.
 - None of the above.
- The world's smallest carnivorous mammal lives in Manitoba. It is the...
 - Least Weasel
 - Lynx
 - Fisher
 - Long-tailed Weasel
 - None of the above



Answers: 3. d
4. false
5. c
6. a
7. a

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For More Information

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www.oakhammockmarsh.ca

Hours of Operation

May to October
10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
November to April
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Extended hours during the fall.

The Interpretive Centre is open beyond its public hours for group bookings and meetings.

ASK THE NATURALIST

Do female frogs sing?

Generally no. The male frogs are mostly the ones that sing and different species sing different songs. Males are also the ones that have the loud voice; in some species females do sing but have softer voices. The males sing (grunts, croaks) to attract the females for mating. Males also use their voice as a territorial call to warn other males



of the same species that this is their territory.

Join an interpreter on the frog survey conducted daily during May and June to learn more about this vocal animal.

SUMMER CAMP 2007!

Can you think of a better way to enjoy the summer than in a fabulous setting surrounded by wildlife and friendly, enthusiastic interpreters? Three camps (plus a French camp) will be offered this summer throughout July and August:

Cattail Camp: ages 5-7

Blackbird Camp: (optional 1 night sleepover): ages 8-10

Harrier Camp: (2 night sleepover): ages 11-13

Activities may include scavenger hunts, canoe excursions, critter dipping, animal detective, bison farm visit, swimming offsite and more!

Call for details.

