

FRIENDS of THE SALMON RIVER
PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2006-07
by Gray Merriam

In 2006-07 The Friends of the Salmon River accomplished a lot for the watershed. A partial list of the accomplishments includes:

EVENTS

- Sold-out Watershed Bus Tour organized by Susan Howlett
- Public Lecture on **Wolves by Michael Runtz** overflowed Tamworth Library and thanks to the Tamworth Legion, was accommodated there
- Published ***The Salmon River Watershed – Jewel of Eastern Ontario***, written by members, edited by Milly Ristvedt, designed by Richard Saxe and proofed by Susan Howlett. Virtually the entire print run of 1000 has been sold or placed in schools, libraries and government offices
- Launch of the *Salmon River Watershed* book at Beaver Lake drew a large crowd who were addressed by Peter Milliken, Speaker of the House of Commons and canoeist
- **Turtles, Frogs & Skinks**, a talk presented in Arden by Ian McIntosh from the Adopt-A-Pond program at the Toronto Zoo. Co-hosted with the Kennebec Lake Association.
- Janelle Tulloch organized a Green Team of FSR members and others to clean up post-winter litter from the Kingsford Conservation Area
- An FSR Public Lecture by **Rick Lindgren**, “The Power of Volunteer Groups” at the August 07 FSR Annual General Meeting recognizes the effectiveness of volunteer work and encourages more such progress
- Useful services and information will be supplied to members and the public by booths and displays at the August 07 Annual General Meeting

OUTREACH

- Over 30 Stewardship Plans have been provided to private land owners in the watershed
- FSR partnered with the Lennox and Addington Stewardship Council and Quinte Conservation to present to the public a conceptual plan for **The Croydon Community Forest**. Stewardship plans and tree and shrub plantings on private lands have initiated the CCF plan on the ground
- Program organized by John Liggett has done classroom presentations on water and the watershed for grades 4/5 and 7/8 in all public schools in the watershed

- Meetings seeking public input to FSR were held in Northbrook, Arden, Tamworth and Lonsdale
- An information briefing about water as a resource, the nature of the Salmon watershed and FSR was given to every Municipal Council in the watershed
- An information briefing was given to the Tamworth/Erinsville - OMAFRA Revitalization Committee
- An invited site visit was held at the restoration of Moss' Mill in Tamworth
- Articles about the Salmon watershed have been published in *Complete Health* magazine and, recently, in the *Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat* newsletter
- Three letters by the FSR Board to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment addressed deficiencies in the proposal to expand the **Richmond Dump** and provided technical support in the campaign to stop the expansion
- In partnership with the Frontenac Stewardship Council, **FSR was awarded almost \$38,000 by the Frontenac Community Futures Development Corporation** to support two interns for six months to foster co-operation among lake associations and to encourage selected volunteer stewardship programs based on the state of local natural resources. FSR is indebted to Bret Colman and the FCFDC for these opportunities

THANK YOU TO:

Accomplishments by the Friends of the Salmon River depended very heavily on devoted and active Directors. Past Directors and Members not on the Board also provided many things that enabled progress. The Co-ordinators of the Frontenac, Hastings, and Lennox and Addington Stewardship Councils advised the Board of Directors and were vital to our activities. The entire membership of those three Councils also gave FSR critical support and vital funding for some of our projects.

Other partners and co-operators and groups providing critical support included: The Napanee District Community Foundation, the Northbrook Lions Club, the Beaver Lake Preservation Association, the Kennebec Lake Association, and Quinte Conservation.

The Lakeview Hotel provided meeting space, refreshments and many forms of support that helped FSR immensely, especially during our book launch. Milly Ristvedt welcomed us to meet in her home many times. We thank such generous folks warmly.