



July 2015

## The Batawa Bulletin

#081



Michael Runtz displays one of the many butterflies spotted during the nature walk in Batawa in July. 35 people of all ages attended the event free of charge.

### FAMED NATURALIST LEADS WALK IN BATAWA

A Sunday morning in July proved perfect for exploring the natural wonders of Batawa. Thirty-five nature lovers joined renowned naturalist Michael Runtz on a public walk through the trails.

Runtz is one of Canada's most highly respected naturalists, nature photographers, and natural history authors. A birdwatcher since the age of five, he has lived, breathed and worked with nature all his life.

One attendee, Dana Jonak, travelled all the way from

Thornhill to join the walk. Dana was one of the original settlers of Batawa. She arrived in 1939 as a three year old immigrant, when Thomas Bata and his fellow Czechs escaped the Nazi invasion and built a new life in Canada.

The three hour walk began at Batawa Ski Hill, and within only a few minutes Runtz had called and identified several bird species, much to the delight of the crowd.

The group made use of the Lower Trent trail system, which

crosses through the village of Batawa, and members of the "Friends of the Trail" were in attendance.

At least one youngster had his interest in nature increased. Kaleb Howes, nine, of Belleville, demonstrated such enthusiasm that Runtz had named him "co-leader" of the group before the end of the day.

Visit [www.batawa.ca](http://www.batawa.ca) for videos of the walk and a full list of species identified.

### LAWN & GARDEN CONTEST WINNERS



Volunteers from the Stirling Horticultural Society made their

rounds of Batawa's beautiful streetscapes, and this year's three Lawn & Garden Contest winners have been selected. First place receives a crystal bowl and their name on the trophy, and second and third place receive a crystal vase and plate. Many thanks to everyone for keeping Batawa beautiful!

**First Place**

Peter & Nancy McCulloch,  
17 King George Crescent

**Second Place**

Judy & Darko Medved,  
45 King George Crescent

**Third Place**

Jeff & Vicki Moorhouse,  
116 Sidney Crescent

**Honourable Mentions**

Doug & Lise Armstrong,  
120 Sidney Crescent

Theresa & Rich Dickson,  
96 Fraser Drive

Don & Joan Montrose,  
29 Sidney Crescent

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday Brunch** at the ski hill every week until end of August. New one-plate price of \$10 +tax

**15 Aug.** – Quinte Zombie Zone Run at ski hill

**30 Sept.** – Deadline for Season Pass Early Bird Sale at ski hill

**3 Oct.** – Harvest at the Hill and Doors Open at ski hill



Summer Adventure Day Camp kids play a team-building game during the busiest year of summer camp the ski hill has yet seen – more than 200 kids registered!



The new Batawa Lions Club natural playground has seen steady use since its grand opening in June by members of Quinte West council and the Batawa Lions.



BDC Caretaker Dan Asti rounds the bases after popping the ball into the outfield during a recent Batawa staff baseball game at the ski hill.

***Batawa ... beautiful by nature & design***