



No self-respecting Conservancy member would mistake these two for new volunteers, but the property is. Janet Grand and Ron Reid will be monitoring the 4-kilometre stretch of the Black River flowing through the Ron Reid Nature Reserve. Photo: Dortehea

New Places, New Faces

Adams, Carthew Bay, Elliott Woods, Kris Starr and the Ron Reid Nature Reserve have all gotten some new caretakers over the past six months.

Adams:

Holly Brown and Eileen Atkinson hail from Washago and Gravenhurst respectively, and are monitoring the Adams Nature Reserve. In addition to staying on the lookout for human incursions and trail conditions, they are both keenly interested in plants.

Carthew Bay:



Dianne & Arni Stinissen. As stolen without permission from Dianne's facebook page by Tanya!

This property is monitored by the Orillia Naturalists' Club, and up until this spring the team was led by Arni Stinissen. We said sad farewells to Arni and Dianne Stinissen, who are valued members of the Couchiching Conservancy and now re-settled in Tobermory.

Barb Ryckman is capably filling Arni's shoes, and organized successful property team visits in June, September, and October.

Elliott Woods:

Ingrid VanderMarel, Val Watt, and Joan Grandine were a formidable trio for many years in the fight to control Garlic Mustard at Elliott Woods. When Val and Joan moved to town two years ago, Ingrid valiantly continued on alone...until this spring.

Like Ingrid, Grant and Vicki Te Brugge *also* have two capital letters in their last name. Vicki is a professor of forestry at Lakehead University, and she and Grant are fisheries biologists. Vicki grew up on the Ron Reid Nature Reserve but lives in Oro-Medonte now. They know the landscape, and we are glad they have come forward to assist us with property stewardship at Elliott Woods.

Kris Starr:



Gerry Church and John Pitts. *Photo: Dorthea*

Gerry Church and John Pitts were really just getting started as Property Monitors for the Kris Starr Sanctuary, when John Pitts passed away quite suddenly last February.

Gerry re-grouped, and signed on Tony Hodgson as his new team-mate. They already work together at the Butler Reserve, and have made two property team visits together to Kris Starr so far this year.

Ron Reid Nature Reserve:

Ron and Janet wrote the book (or at least a chapter) on canoeing the Black River in the 1980's ([Canoeing Ontario's Rivers](#)), so who better to monitor the 4 kilometre stretch of the Black that winds its way through the Ron Reid Nature Reserve?

On land at RRNR we have Melanie and Al Tuck. Melanie is a veteran of the Alexander Hope-Smith property team. She and her husband Al have been making monthly visits to keep an eye on the new signs, the buildings, and now the trail down to Ragged Rapids.

-Dorthea Hangaard