

# MFNC May 2017 Bulletin

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## Promoting the appreciation, understanding, and preservation of nature in the Ottawa Valley

Welcome, **Karen**

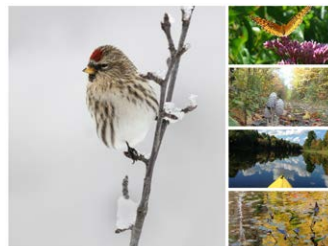
### From Axes to Ashes; Singing Saws to Howling Wolves — a Winning Combination



Thanks to all who attended our April 28 fundraiser for the Macnamara Trail Extension. We had some 230 people attend the event and we cleared close to \$3,000 for the project.

Speaker Rory MacKay (seen here with Arnprior resident Bonnie Bews) brought historic axes and saws used in lumbering and showed many historic photos of Arnprior lumber operations taken by Charles Macnamara. Michael Runtz told us about animals like deer that moved into the area when young forests began to grow, and those displaced, like moose and wolf, by the loss of deep forest.

Both speakers held the attention of the audience throughout their presentations and many people let us



Macnamara Field Naturalists' Club  
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#### Special Committee

know how much they enjoyed the evening, a wonderful combination of human and natural history.

Thanks to all who participated, with special thanks to [Pakenham General Store](#) for their gift basket and [Gilligallou Bird Inc](#) for selling tickets, and our display groups that included [Arnprior Public Library](#) (also a wonderful ticket seller), [Arnprior McNab/Braeside Archives](#), [Arnprior & District Museum](#), the Rotary Club of Arnprior, and Friends of the Carp Hills.

## For the Birds... and the Macnamara Trail Extension



Was birding a part of your May long weekend? For Michael Runtz, Monday the 22nd marked the start of a marathon birding effort that took flight at 3:15 p.m. and ended at 3:15 a.m. Tuesday, as part of The Great Canadian Birdathon.

The birdathon is an annual fundraiser for Bird Studies Canada (BSC) programs directed to priority conservation needs for birds; its participants can designate 25% of the funds they raise to their cause of choice. Michael chose our project to fund the Macnamara Trail extension as his cause and although the birdathon is over, **related donations will be accepted for another 70 days.**

[Read more, including Michael's results, here:](#)

Photo: Wilson's Warbler

## NEWS

Trail Extension update: Ontario Power

### Members

Brian Voss (Membership)  
Angela Skevington (Young Macs)  
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### Macnamara Trail Extension

Janet Mason  
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### Meetings:

First Tuesday of the month  
at 7:30 p.m.  
Arnprior Curling Club  
15 Galvin Street

### Annual Memberships:

Family \$30, Individual \$25

### Guests welcome:

\$5 per meeting  
Students Free!



Macnamara Field Naturalists' Club




311 likes

About us: Following in the footsteps of

naturalist and photographer Charles Macnamara, the Macnamara Club has explored, documented and enjoyed the rich natural history of the Lower Ottawa Valley since the club's founding in 1984. Members meet the first Tuesday of every month except July and August at the Arnprior Curling Club, 15 Galvin Street, in Arnprior. Expert speakers share their knowledge and take members in easy steps into their special worlds. Field trips throughout the year investigate everything from geology, to birds in migration, to rare orchids.

[connect with me!](#)

### Latest Posts

-  Michael Runtz/Nature's Way: A bonanza of warblers in Algonquin Park. After visiting the two best places in North America for seeing warblers in migration, it was in Michael's beloved Algonquin where he would have the best two hours of warbler-viewing of his life, including this Black-throated Blue -- not only one of the most beautiful of warblers, it is also one of the best named.

<https://www.insideottawavalley.com/opinion-story/7325464-a-bonanza-of-warblers-in-algonquin/> [see more] 5/25/17 12:37PM



Generation has donated \$5,000 to our fund.



Our annual banquet on November 4, 2017, is moving to a new venue: the Sand Point Golf Course.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS



**Sparrow, Warblers, and Hawks - Taking a "peep" at the Wild Bird Care Centre**  
**Patty McLaughlin**

The Ottawa Valley Wild Bird Care Centre cares for over 3000 wild birds annually. Patty's presentation will provide a firsthand experience of what it is like to care for over 120 different species of wild birds each year and share tricks used to keep the birds comfortable in captivity based on their typical personalities, interesting facts, and miraculous recoveries. [More details here.](#)

## FIELD TRIPS







**Monday, June 5, 6:15 p.m.**  
**Evening Birding Walk at the Bill Mason Centre**  
**Leader: Art Goldsmith**  
[Details on the website](#)



**Saturday, July 8, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**  
**Sixteenth Annual Ottawa Area Butterfly Count, Almonte**  
**Leaders: Jeff Skevington and Peter Hall**  
This event is especially "kid friendly." [Details on the website.](#)

## Mother's Day Walk on the Macnamara Trail

 Scientists from Austria, Finland and Hungary are using laser scanners to study the day-night rhythm of trees. As it turns out, trees go to sleep too. [[see more](#)] 5/25/17 10:57AM

-  Wow! The oldest discovered turtle fossil dates from around 220 million years ago. #WorldTurtleDay [[see more](#)] 5/23/17 11:50AM
-  Patty McLaughlin, who runs the education program at the Wild Bird Care Centre, will be acquainting us with the Centre's "guests" and operations at our June 6 meeting. [[see more](#)] 5/21/17 5:36PM
-  A timely reminder that feeding hummingbirds (and other birds) comes with responsibilities i.e. scrupulous cleaning of your feeders. Bob Volks Louise Beckinsale referenced elements like this during his presentation Saturday at the Almonte Gardening and Outdoor Living Show. [[see more](#)] 5/21/17 5:16PM



33 followers  
223 tweets  
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### Latest Tweets

- 20% of ticks in #Ottawa thought to carry #Lyme. Ottawa officially at risk. <https://t.co/9Fsh63dVGd> 75 cases of Lyme infection in 2016. 11:11AM
- <https://t.co/0OEXzxVY7r> 8:31PM
- Happens on June 3. <https://t.co/0kwLpPpQiv> 10:13AM
- <https://t.co/WsaABrRJ1y> 8:42PM
- "We need to develop a "forest city" ethic within Canada." <https://t.co/EuAzxqijra> 10:27AM



On May 14, Owen Clarkin led about 20 nature enthusiasts on a three-hour botanical tour of the Macnamara Trail. We learned the difference between Large-Tooth Aspen and Trembling Aspen (both Poplars) and inhaled the enchanting, spicy odour of Balsam Poplar. We also learned that the trail area hosts a wide range of tree and shrub species under which grow Trilliums, Toothwort, Trout lily, Mayflower, and other spring ephemeral flowers. An informative and enjoyable tour — with no rain and frequent sunshine.

Photo: Owen Clarkin shows Bur Oak and Red Oak leaves on the Macnamara Trail [See more photos.](#)



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