

MACNAMARA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

Minutes – 2016 Annual General Meeting

- I. Election of New Directors / Officers -Janet Mason and Monique Boivin, elected by acclimation of members present.
- II. Presentation of Directors' Annual Reports:
 1. Speakers-John McEwen;
 2. Field Trips - Maureen Carrier;
 3. Communications-Karen Runtz;
 4. Financial -Cathy Stewart
 5. Membership Report – Olga Janowska

Speakers Report – 2016 – John McEwen

The MFNC entertained several interesting presenters on a variety of topics.

In April, Colin Jones, a lifelong naturalist and arthropod zoologist at the Natural Heritage Information Centre, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in Peterborough, Ontario presented on Dragonflies and Damselflies of Ontario. His talk, complete with outstanding photographs, highlighted the fascinating life cycle of dragonflies and damselflies , their conservation, and the habitats they are found in.

Dog-strangling vine: Understanding its Invasiveness and Controlling its Spread was the title of our May presentation. Naomi Cappuccino, an associate professor at Carleton University, shared the results of research to understand what characteristics give this plant, one of the most invasive alien plants in Ontario, such an advantage over native vegetation and make it so difficult to eradicate. The potential for biological control of the vine using herbivores brought in from its native range in Ukraine was also discussed.

The most attended presentation was about Lyme disease: A Journey into the Woods: Understanding Lyme Disease Ecology in Ontario, presented by Katie Clow of Guelph University. Dr. Clow discussed the key ecological factors associated with the blacklegged tick and Lyme disease and some of the common myths and misconceptions of Lyme disease.

In September, the club learned about the map turtle: The Sex Life of the Northern Map Turtle: What goes on above and below the surface, presented by Dr. Grégory Bulté, a biology instructor at Carleton University. Dr. Bulté discussed the challenges in understanding the reproductive behaviours of these aquatic animals and revealed through the use of a wide range of field techniques how previously unknown aspects of the reproductive biology of the map turtle were uncovered.

Moths was the topic of our October presentation. Jim des Rivières, a photographer and fine art printer, shared images of moths collected in and around the Ottawa Valley. His images revealed a marvellous world of intricate shapes, structures, and colours of these creatures.

Stromatolites of the Ottawa Valley was the title of the presentation given by Allan Donaldson, a retired professor from the Department of Geology, Carleton University in November. Stromatolites, as we found out, are distinctive layered structures in sedimentary rocks formed by algae-like mats formed by cyanobacteria and sediments trapped in these organic structures. These fossils provide an impressive record of the only life that existed throughout the first 90% of our planet's 4.6 billion-year-old history.

In December (scheduled), Bill Montevicchi, a research professor in the Psychology, Biology and Ocean Sciences departments at Memorial University of Newfoundland, presented on the Great Auk and the Beothuk: The Extinct Auk and Beothuk Linked in Time and Spirit. Just over a couple of centuries ago, Funk Island, a small granite outcrop 50 km off the northeast Newfoundland coast, held the largest breeding aggregation of the last flightless bird of the northern hemisphere – the Great Auk. During historical times and well before, the Beothuk visited Funk Island. The talk explored the co-occurrences of the extinct flightless bird and the extinct indigenous people.

Field Trips Report for 2016

Maureen Carrier

We had 15 outings scheduled; two were cancelled because of weather.

The trips covered diverse areas of interest, as can be seen below. Many of the field trips were led by our own club members.

We had very good participation at these events, typically with about 20 members and guests, but sometimes with more than 40!

Often the trips included a social event after, such as dinner at PJ's, lunch at the Centennial, ice cream in Braeside....

Title (From most recent)	Leader/Host
Birds of Prey in Late Fall	Jon Ruddy
Local Fossils	Dave Forsyth
Mushrooming for Beginners	Suzanne Monnon
Tour of the Geoheritage Park in Almonte	Allan Donaldson
Moths on the Macnamara Trail	Diane Lepage (was cancelled twice because of weather and will be rescheduled for 2017)
Ferns on the Macnamara Trail	Lis Allison
Orchids in the White Lake Fen	Michael Runtz
Birding at the Bill Mason Centre	Art Goldsmith
Innis Point Bird Observatory Visit	Celia Bodnar
Frogs, Salamanders, Other Creatures of the Night	Steve Duffield and members of the club
Owl Prowl	Michael Runtz
Snowshoe and Social	Karen Krueger (cancelled because of weather)
Carp Ridge on Snowshoes	Jeff Skevington/Gord Vogg/Janet Mason
Birds of Prey in Winter	Jon Ruddy

2016 Communications Report from Karen Runtz

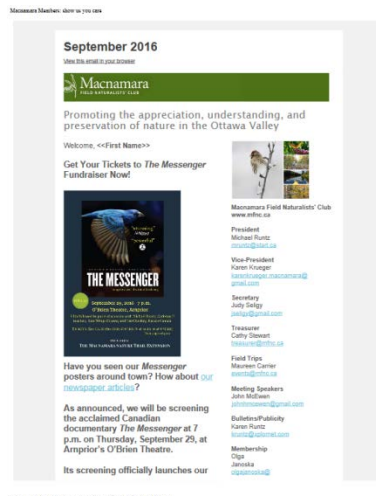
- Updated the print version of the Macnamara Trail guide to reference the proposed extension and created an interactive version for download.
- Supported fundraising events such as the White Pine festival and The Messenger with communications i.e. articles and posters etc.



WHITE PINE FESTIVAL, ARNPRIOR



- Created, issued and posted nine electronic bulletins

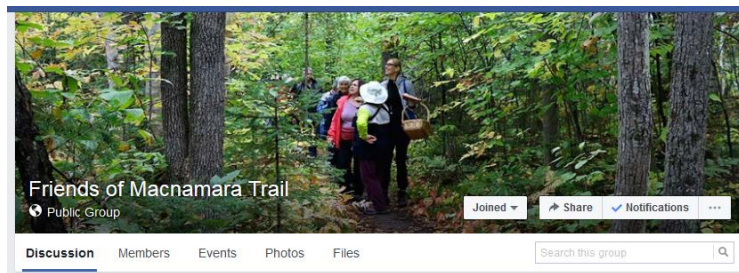


- Managed content on the mfnc.ca website

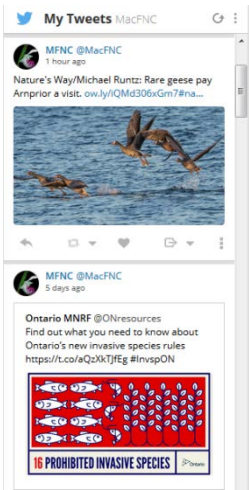
Managed and made regular posts to the Macnamara Facebook page



- Created and posted to a Facebook group page- Friends of the Macnamara Trail



- Created and made regular posts to a Macnamara Twitter account @MacFNC



- Created a club survey and online forms for the purchase of club membership and banquet tickets

**Macnamara Field
Naturalists' Club**

**TREASURER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Dec. 5, 2016- Cathy Stewart**

BANK BALANCE: Dec 5, 2016	41,849.02
Uncleared cheques	636.03
Uncleared deposit	395.00
Net Bank	41,607.99

MESSENGER PROJECT	
BOX OFFICE	1,800.00
EXPENSES	817.71
PROFIT	982.29

NOTE CARD PROJECT	SALES	5,215.00
	EXPENSES	2,497.74
	PROFIT	2,717.26

BANQUET 2016	Tickets	2,905.00
	Silent Auction	1,104.60
	Raffle, etc	250.00
	Expenses	2,352.00
	PROFIT	1,907.60

2015 MEMBERSHIP INCOME	3,889.00
2016 MEMBERSHIP INCOME [to date]	3,710.00

TRAIL ACCOUNT AS OF DEC. 5, 2016

INCOME	CLUB PLEDGE	5,000.00	
	GOLDER	6,033.21	2013
	DONATIONS, ETC	1,798.25	2013
	DONATIONS	9,106.00	2014
	DONATIONS	2,158.60	2015
	GOLDER	14,424.70	2015
	DONATIONS	1,453.76	2016
2013-15	Banquet Proceeds	6,262.21	
2016	Banquet Proceeds	1,907.60	
	CALENDARS	3,420.39	
	NOTE CARDS- NET	2,717.26	
2016	Messenger	982.29	
	INCOME TOTAL	55,264.27	
EXPENSES	GOLDER	5,339.12	2013
		12,765.22	2015
	OTHER EXPENSES	1,005.91	
	NET TRAIL ACCT TO DATE	36,154.02	
	[Included in bank balance above]		



Executive Report: Membership/Olga Janoska

Current membership for 2016-17 = **189** , out of which **26** are new.
As of December 5, 2016 , **42** members still to renew