MFNC July 2020 Bulletin

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Macnamara
FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

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

Welcome, **<<First Name>>**

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www.mfnc.ca

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Brian Voss (Membership)
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Meetings:

HOW ARE YOU DOING?

In the midst of these challenging times, we hope you've been able to find some joy in nature.

Any special sightings? Remember to keep records of them until we meet again. For now, send us a photo or two of something in nature that has raised your spirits lately. Send them with a note to newsmfnc@gmail.com ; we'll share them on Facebook and our website.

Here's an example: This beak-to-beak exchange of sunflower seeds at one of her feeders surprised Karen Runtz, who did not know that adult birds continue feeding their young after they leave their nest.

WHAT'S AHEAD

Your executive recently held their first virtual meeting —a learning experience for most of us. We had lots to cover, including a review of possible options for upcoming meetings and events as the ongoing battle against COVID-19 continues to shape what activities

are safe and if so, under what conditions.

Based on this, our club's September meeting is likely to be a virtual one; we'll let you know more when we've pinned down the specifics, including our speaker and their topic.

Memberships extended
We depend on your membership fees—$25 for individuals and $30 for families— to continue offering great monthly meetings with expert speakers, year-round field trips and special projects and activities, including stewardship of the Macnamara Trail.

As you know we had to cancel our last four meetings and put a hold on field trips; the good news is we've reached a point where we can announce **a new members-only outing** to Burnt Lands Provincial Park, albeit with a limited number of participants. See below for the details.

The other good news is that **we are extending your current membership to December 31, 2020**. MFNC memberships will thereafter follow the calendar year from the beginning of January to the end of December, aligning with our new financial year-end.

FIELD TRIPS
MEMBERS-ONLY Outing to Burnt Lands Provincial Park
Saturday, July 18, 2020
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (approx. 3hrs)
Rain date: Sunday, July 19
Location: We will meet at Burnt Lands (park on March Road near Carroll Side Road).L
Leader: Derek Dunnett

Derek will lead the group around the park discussing the topography, fossils, trees, plants, birds, herps, insects and other things of interest.

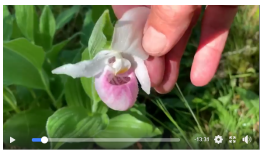
Photo: Wood Lily

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!

Register at events@mfnc.ca no later than Wed., July 15. Participation will be on a first-come first-registered basis. Numbers will be restricted to those allowed by local Health bylaws so register early and only if you truly know you can come. You may only register yourself and anyone in your own household. Confirmation emails will be sent.
SEE THE WEBSITE FOR OTHER ESSENTIAL DETAILS.



If you haven't seen Michael Runtz's recent visit to the White Lake Fen, you'll find the details and video here. You will also find more details at Janet's Mason's "Showy Me' the orchids" post on our blog

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Acknowledging Octomum

John and Beth McEwen sent me a link recently to *Octomum*, a podcast their daughter, Annie, had reported and produced, suggesting it may be of interest to members. Frankly, I rarely listen to podcasts or audio books; give me a visual — a photo, book or TV program or movie any day. But I started to listen and, mesmerized, barely moved a muscle until it ended; I stayed sitting a while longer, thinking about what I had heard and felt.

So little is known about life in the deep sea; did you know that animals that live there make their own light? One such creature, Octomum, lived in the giant underwaters of California's Monterey canyon; the podcast tells her story.

As described in the written introduction to the podcast, "what began as a simple act of motherhood became a heroic feat that has never been equaled by any known species on Earth."

It's a wonderful story—a demonstration of patience and faith in the outcome. Check it out. K.R.

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