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Macnamara
FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

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

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

**Macnamara Field Naturalists' Club**
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**Meetings**:
Due to ongoing measures to combat the spread of

**MEMBERS-ONLY MEETING**
**November 3, 2020**
**7:30 p.m.**

**Our November club meeting will be a virtual one using Zoom and featuring a presentation by local farmer, instructor and researcher Alberto Suarez-Esteban on Carnivores, roads and plants: how unexpected relationships change ecosystems.**

**Arms full of salad turnips and radishes, Alberto is proud of his roots; his pride also extends to Spain, where he was born and raised and earned his PhD.**

**And it is to this country that we will follow him on November 3 as he unravels the unexpected consequences of roads in a Mediterranean ecosystem.**
**Get more information at** https://mfnc.ca/how-disturbances-change-ecosystems/

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**Club member John Lawrence is again facilitating our meeting, which will start with club business. If you have a sighting you'd like to share, please send the details before the meeting to him at john.lawrence@gartner.com . Include your name, the date and location of your sighting and any questions you may have; add a photo if you have one. As in our regular meetings, Michael will offer his comments. If you haven't used Zoom yet, *don't worry— it's fairly straightforward.***

**The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. but if you're new to Zoom, we recommend that you sign in at least 15 minutes early (at 7:15) to test your audio/video; before then, to learn more about Zoom's features you might also want to try the free service with friends.**
You'll find detailed instructions for using Zoom to join the meeting here, including a PDF version you can download and print for your reference.

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## WERE YOU THERE

Based on COVID-19 recommendations, we have had to limit the number of participants in our field trips (and include only club members) but you can still imagine yourself there by way of the photos and details in the following write-ups.

### Trees on the Macnamara Trail

Walkers had great weather on their September 26 outing on the old second growth forest in the Macnamara Trail. The drought of early summer with later rains may have been responsible for some of the flowering plants still being in bloom ; it was also a super time for Fall colour viewing.

### Macnamara Trail Fungi with Jonathan Mack and Lynne Ovenden

One of the two groups on the outing reported a respectable 24 species and the other group, 26

COVID-19, our in-person first-Tuesday-of-the-month meetings at the Arnprior Curling Club have been suspended until further notice. Check your email for club updates on virtual options.

**Annual Memberships**:
Family $30, Individual $25

**Guests welcome**:
$5 per meeting
Students Free!

species. This, as one participant stated was impressive for such a "relatively short walk." You'll find more details of the outing, including a listing of all the mushrooms found on the walk here.

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**Macnamara Trail gets more love**

Our collective hearts were warmed by a great detailed review published by a family that walked the main trail and the Nopiming Loop in mid-October.

*We really enjoyed the Macnamara Nature Trail. I think a lot of our love for it came from the time of year that we went. The trees along the route were just stunning. And the views over the marsh made even better by a few pops of red here and there.*
*But it was also just a nice, easy trail that got us a great walk in the woods. Not too short, not too long, the Macnamara Nature Trail was just right.*

*Read more and see their pictures here* .

You'll find theirs is a great site for checking out Hiking, Biking and Paddling Routes in (and around) Ottawa.

Trail co-ordinators Julian and Béatrice Romeskie were impressed, especially as the family visited prior to the brush clearing along the Lady Slipper Boardwalk and the new boardwalk extension to the Marsh Lookout Tower which four of our trail volunteers built the following Friday.

Béatrice also reminds us that although the sign at the kiosk mentions that the trail was not being maintained due to COVID, the trail has in fact been maintained both by "trail angels," club members who take it upon themselves to undertake any work that needs to be done without necessarily reporting to us, and by ourselves.

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## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

**The Macnamara Field Naturalists Club is a friendly club. Back in the pre-covid months when we held our club meetings in person at the Arnprior Curling club, we always asked our new members to stand up and**

**introduce themselves. We miss that ritual. So, with that door closed, we'll extend our welcome by listing their names in our newsletter.**
**A warm welcome to the following new members who have joined since March 1, 2020:**

**Colleen and Michael Petzold**
**Melodie and Jon Mortensen**
**Brian Gillespie and Lorie Easton**
**Jonathan, Peter and Lucie Mack**
**Lynn Ovenden**
**Erica Slater**
**Kara Golota**
**Pete MacEwen**
**Sarah Stewart and Adam Hurd**
**Maureen Mark**
**Elena Petrcich**
**Brenda Langerfield**
**Valerie Yates and Gerry Lavery**
**Roger Magoon**
**Grant Smith and Maureen Coulas**

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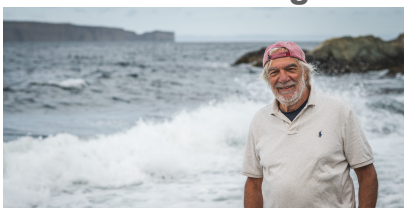
## Super star' seabird biologist recognized with national mentoring award



Birding enthusiasts in particular will remember Dr. Bill Montevecchi, a University Research Professor in the Psychology, Biology and Ocean Sciences Departments at Memorial University of Newfoundland, who spoke to our club in late 2016 on the *Extinct Auk and Bethothuk linked in time and spirit*. This "super star in marine ornithology" has been recognized with a national mentoring award

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## In search of hare

Victoria Reimer, an undergraduate student at Trent University, has reached out to Ontario nature groups for sightings relating to her project concerning snowshoe hares. The project will use iNaturalist data to investigate when snowshoe hares' fur turns white in the fall and brown in the spring, and to determine the

southern range limit for snowshoe hares in Ontario. In order to collect the data she needs, she has created a project on iNaturalist where app users can post their sightings of snowshoe hares. They can find this project by searching “Ontario Snowshoe Hares” on the mobile app, or by following this link: https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/ontario-snowshoe-hares.

Although she would like to receive any and all snowshoe hare photos submitted by app users, she is particularly interested in users’ first sighting of white or molting hares for the season. If you have questions about her project, you can check out her website at https://reimervictoria.wixsite.com/snowshoehare for more information, or email her at victoriareimer@trentu.ca

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### Welcome back to the Museum of Nature!

Have you heard? The Museum of Nature has re-opened its doors to a maximum of 250 people at any one time. Tickets must be purchased online and admission is time-ticketed, with 25 tickets available for every 15-minute time slot.

The museum is also offering a rare look at their huge research and scientific collections via a virtual open house and behind-the-scenes tours. New episodes of the Virtual Open House series are posted every week on their Facebook, Instagram IGTV, and YouTube channels.

FB Website YouTube Twitter Facebook Group

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