MFNC February 2021 Bulletin

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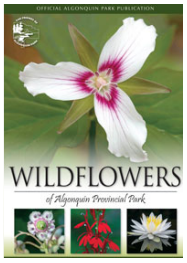
Macnamara
FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

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

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

MEETINGS
Tuesday, February 2, 2021
The 2021 Great Naturalist Quiz

Our president's Great Naturalist Quiz lives on! However, due to Covid-19 and our virtual format we will not break into teams this year, so you will be your own team! More details here.



A prize—one of Michael's newest books: *Wildflowers of Algonquin Provincial Park*—will be awarded to the person with the most points!

"Birds were us" on Members Night

Our club has many bird lovers, as showcased in the photos and stories presented at our January "Members' Night." Plants and insects also had their shining moments as we adapted our usual show-and-tell format of physical specimens to a virtual offering.

We challenged members to submit a photo reflecting some aspect of nature taken in 2020 "at home." Our "Zoom master" John Lawrence packaged these first-class images into PowerPoint slides that you can peruse on our website.

A Bald Eagle

Macnamara Field Naturalists' Club
www.mfnc.ca

President
Michael Runtz
michaelwruntz@gmail.com

Vice-President

Secretary
Maureen Carrier
info@mfnc.ca

Treasurer
Ritchie Lawrence
treasurer@mfnc.ca

Field Trips
Janet McCullough
events@mfnc.ca

Meeting Speakers

Bulletins/Promotion
Karen Runtz
kruntz@xplornet.com

Membership

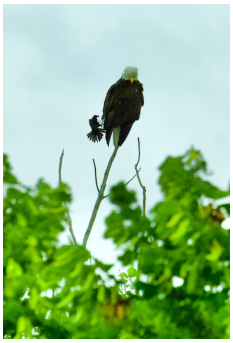
Macnamara Trail
trail@mfnc.ca

Special Committee Members
Brian Voss (Membership)
ez760@ncf.ca

Meetings:
First Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Annual Memberships:
Family $30, Individual $25

How to join our meeting via Zoom



harassed by a Common Grackle, June 28,2020; from the Lackner's home in Dunrobin on the Ottawa River. **Linda Lackner**

Another option was a weekend challenge where members counted birds at their feeder or in their yard for up to 24 hours the weekend prior to our January meeting. Judy and Murray Borer took bragging rights and a pack of Macnamara notecards for their count of 120 birds representing 13 species; Ann Lambert was runner up with 12 species. Earle Campbell's count included 9 species.

Rounding out the reporting, Michael Runtz shared numbers from the Pakenham-Arnprior bird count**, which tallied a record 11,558 birds of 55 species.**

A Golden Eagle was the seventh record for the Count.
Photo: Ethan McCann

Member presentations
Member Jim Lougheed shared photos from his Carp farm and Alberto Suarez-Esteban shared a range of photos of life on his "Nature's Apprentice' farm in Pakenham

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Welcome!
A warm welcome to the following new members who have joined the club since our last meeting.
Joan Heyding and Ian Gough
Debra Bertrand
Pamela Friedrich

To join our Zoom Meeting click this link: https://zoom.us/j/4908487254 then follow the Zoom instructions.

Members who do not already have a Zoom account will be asked to download Zoom – it takes less than one minute.

Zoom will work on your computer, phone or iPad.

You can also join the audio by calling either number below, and, when asked, enter the meeting number – 4908487254.

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/amb5Gx5X8

FACEBOOK

- You knew this already, didn't you! https://www.birdwatchingdaily.com/news/birdwatching/birds-increase-human-happiness-study-finds/ *1/25/21 11:31AM*
- 76% of marine creatures are bio-luminescent. https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/reference/bioluminescence-animals-ocean-glowing/?fbclid=IwAR3WpSXxx6idlHD8owqBFSJS2_ChK16Qr9_Qwg2DtvmNewrRYHZZ6jTR--o *1/23/21 10:02AM*
- An important evolutionary link: dawn of the Wonderchicken. https://wserv4.esc.cam.ac.uk/online-exhibitions/index.php/Shorthand/dawn-of-the-wonderchicken-2/?fbclid=IwAR3_6GptBCJe_e-sD-Mg7JvczMAY2LvqjJhbAQmpZGU1Q5H2Gw_A50Q56Eo *1/22/21 8:17AM*
- How dams affect eels in the Ottawa river. https://www.ottawariverkeeper.ca/faqs-on-the-carillon-dam-and-the-american-eel/ *1/21/21 10:12AM*

MFNC

63 followers
941 tweets
following 64 people

follow

Latest Tweets

- https://t.co/ApEi5xOT6f *11:50AM*
- https://t.co/16ST2SKg97 *10:35AM*
- https://t.co/pl3EcSnmen *9:23AM*
- https://t.co/NnuuCBaeH4 *7:21PM*
- https://t.co/daFNBgLZmL *10:58AM*

AGM March 2, 2021

The MFNC's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held before the start of our regular club meeting on March 2; executive reports will be posted on our website by mid-February. One item of business will be to approve the addition of three new directors to our executive: Linda Sewell, Roger Magoon and Sarah Stewart.

For those who just can't get enough birds, the Great Backyard Bird Count is coming soon; February 12-15, 2021, to be specific.
After all, "More birds bring more happiness, according to science**."**
So says a recent Audubon magazine article that adds …
new studies show how birds improve our wellbeing, adding to a growing body of evidence that avians are an antidote to our despair.

MACNAMARA NATURE TRAIL

A reminder that during the winter months trail maintenance is on a per-needed basis only. If you notice anything that needs attending to, please notify the trail co-ordinators at trail@mfnc.ca

Macnamara Nature Trail policies apply equally to the Nopiming Loop
THE MFNC has recently posted "No Dogs" and "Trail Rules" signs on the Nopiming Loop of the Macnamara Trail near the McLean Avenue access point to make it clear that the club's "No Dogs" policy applies to the Loop the same as it does to the original Macnamara Nature Trail launched some 20 years ago. More details.

P for Parking

Newcomers (and some of us who are directionally challenged) will appreciate the six new “P” (for parking) signs put up along the trail the first week of January to guide you back to the start of the trail/the parking area.

Feeding the birds
Our trail co-ordinators and their helpers have also installed new birdfeeders to give our winged visitors advantages over the squirrels that had been stuffing their cheeks with the seed intended for avian beaks.

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