

# Minutes of the General Meeting of the Kingston Field Naturalists, January 17, 2018, Queen's University, 7:30 p.m.

## 1. Opening Remarks

President Alexandra Simmons welcomed members to the January meeting. She thanked Jacqueline Bartnik and Betsy Beckwith for providing refreshments.

## 2. Minutes of General Meeting held December 21, 2017

The President asked if there were errors or omissions in the previous minutes. There were none. She asked those who have concerns about the minutes to contact Recording Secretary Janis Grant. No vote to accept the minutes was held.

## 3. Member's Observations

-Steve Manders has recently observed waterfowl including Trumpeter Swans, Mute Swans and Canada Geese at Lower Brewers Mills and Jones Falls Locks.

-Gaye Beckwith heard a Flicker calling today in Sydenham.

-Louise saw a Bald Eagle flying over Greenwood Park east of Gananoque.

-Barry Robertson has seen several Bald Eagles over Lake Ontario from his home on Lakeshore Blvd. One was observed capturing a duck on the wing.

-Jackie Bartnik has a Red Tailed Hawk visiting her property.

-Margot McMurray counted 8 Robins eating Buck Thorne berries at Lemoine Point.

-Anthony Kaduck reported on a trip he made to Algonquin Park this past weekend where he saw most of the winter finches including Red Crossbills, White Wing Crossbills, Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks

-Steve Manders asked if any owls have been observed in the Owl Woods. This has not been a good year for owls and the road is difficult.

- Gaye Beckwith saw 13 Snowy Owls on Amherst Island on Sunday. He also reported seeing 5 Wood Ducks (4 males) in a stream at Sydenham.
- John Critchley had a telephone call from a member who lives near Joyceville, who has seen Blue Birds.
- Jeremy Stratham reported seeing a bird that looked like a Great Blue Heron in the wetlands at Little Cataraqui Conservation Area.
- Alexandra Simmons saw a Red Wing Blackbird at her feeder today.

#### 4. Upcoming Events

Members are asked to consult the Newsletter for scheduled Field Trips and Rambles.

Mark Read will present a lecture at the Little Cataraqui Conservation Area on January 21 titled *How Birds Hunt at Night*.

#### 5. Nominating Committee

Kurt Hennige is Chair of the Nominating Committee with members Carolyn Bonta and Janis Grant. KFN members are asked to contact committee members if they are interested in serving on the executive.

#### 6. Project Snow Storm

The Cape May Bird Observatory has set up a website titled *Project Snow Storm* which follows the travels of tagged Snowy Owls. Last week 2 owls on Amherst Island named *Stella* and *Millhaven* were tagged. These are the first Snowy Owls from Ontario to receive radio transmitters.

Members are encouraged to follow them on the website.

#### 7. Feature Presentation

Anthony Kaduck introduced speaker, Peter B. Mills who gave an interesting and amusing talk titled:

*Metamorphosis: Ontario's Amphibians at all Stages of Development*

It was an account of his experience in creating a field guide.

Following the talk he was thanked by Alexandra Simmons who presented him with a copy of *Birds of the Kingston Region*.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm