



Kingston Field Naturalists

December 2019 and January 2020

OUR
71ST
YEAR

KFN

A registered charitable organization and a member of Ontario Nature
Box 831
Kingston, Ontario
K7L 4X6

KFN Website
and links to other sites:
<https://kingstonfielddnaturalists.org>

Blog: <http://kingstonfielddnaturalists.blogspot.com>

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/Kingstonfielddnaturalists>

Membership Inquiries:
Kathy Webb
kw2 at queensu.ca

Meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month from September to April **Social begins at 7:00 pm.**
Ongwanada Resource Centre, Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston

Thursday 21 November will be our 70th Anniversary Party!! We will celebrate with pictures and stories and cake!

The November meeting will celebrate 70 years of the Kingston Nature Club/Kingston Field Naturalists with presentations by speakers Ken Edwards and Chris Grooms. Ken, the current Vice-President, will look back at the early days of the club from the perspective of a child "growing up in the KFN". Chris will look at projects that the KFN has undertaken, starting with Chimney Swift banding more than 70 years ago.

Our Annual KFN Members' Presentations and Holiday Social will take place Thursday 19 December

This is your chance to show off your favourite flora and fauna photos (up to 10) or short videos (up to 5 minutes). Please bring your digital presentation to the meeting room by 7:15. For information contact Erwin Batalla (simbat at bell.net or 613-389-0144). Please bring some holiday goodies to share after the presentations.

The Owl Woods is closed from 18 November to 8 December.

The Owl Woods is private land. The owners ask birders to **stay out** of the Woods during hunting season. KFN asks all birders to honour this long-term agreement.

On Thursday 16 January 2020, Barrie Gilbert will present One of Us: A Biologist's Walk Among Bears

Barrie Gilbert studied at Queen's University and Duke University. When he joined the faculty of Utah State University, grizzly bears research became his specialty. A close encounter with a frightened bear during a research trip in Yellowstone National Park left him clinging to life. Gilbert not only recovered, but he returned to fieldwork, devoting the next several decades to understanding and protecting these often-maligned giants. Gilbert now leads ethical bear-viewing trips to coastal British Columbia, helping people appreciate wild grizzlies and the habitat they require. Drawn from his decades of experience, Gilbert's talk: *One of Us: A Biologist's Walk Among Bears* explodes myths that depict grizzlies as bloodthirsty beasts and reveals the intelligent, adaptable side of these astonishingly social animals. He will be available for a book signing after the presentation.

BOOK SALE! Of used natural history books during the social (7:00 to 7:30) before the fall meetings. Prices will be "pay what you will"; please bring your toonies and small bills.

CAUTIONS!

This is deer hunting season! In South Frontenac, cross bow hunting is allowed from 1 October to 31 December. Gun hunting is allowed from 4 to 17 November and from 2 to 8 December. Hunting is allowed on Sundays. When hiking and birding, wear bright colours, make noise.

RAMBLES are slow walks to notice nature in all its forms. Contact Anne Robertson for more information (613-389-6742 or n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca). **Hiking poles and yak trax or similar non-skid attachments for boots recommended for winter rambles.**

Tuesday 19 November 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Frink Centre (Plainfield Conservation Area north of Belleville) Meet Invista Centre 1350 Gardiners Road (NE corner of parking lot). Dress warmly and bring lunch and a hot drink.

Tuesday 3 December 9:00 am to noon Cataraqui Creek

Meet at Cataraqui Creek crossing on Malabar Dr (near junction with Dolshire St north of Bath Road, west of Centennial Blvd). Dress warmly. Optional lunch after at Tim Hortons, Gardiners Town Centre, Bath Road.

Tuesday 7 January 9:00 am to noon K and P trail Sydenham Road east

Meet at trail parking on west side of Sydenham Road south of Hwy 401. Dress warmly and bring a snack.

Tuesday 21 January 9:00 am to noon Cataraqui Cemetery

Meet at Cemetery parking behind Administration building in the Cemetery. Enter cemetery via Purdy's Mill Road and building/parking is on your right. Dress warmly and bring a snack.

Tuesday 4 February 9:00 am to noon K and P trail Cordukes Road east

Meet at trail parking on Burbrook Road at Cordukes Road (east of Hwy 38). Dress very warmly and bring a snack.

FIELD TRIPS AND OTHER EXCURSIONS

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS from 14 December to 3 January
see page 4 for details

Sunday 15 December – Christmas Bird Count for Kingston with Kathy Webb (kw2 at queensu.ca) and Bill Depew (william.depew at gmail.com). The 9 section leaders within this CBC have all kindly agreed to return this year to coordinate the field participants and surveys within their sections. As before, feeder watchers will also be an integral part of this count. A post-count reception will be held at the Kingston Brewing Company (approx. \$20-\$25/participant).

Friday 17 to Sunday 19 January 2020 Algonquin Provincial Park

Join other KFN members as we search for winter wildlife in Algonquin Park. Target species include Canada Jay, Evening Grosbeak, Pine Siskin, Purple Finch, possibly both species of crossbill, Spruce Grouse, Black-backed Woodpecker and Pine Marten. The plan is to leave on the morning of Friday 17 January and stay overnight in Whitney, near the east gate of the park, departing on Sunday morning. Participants may choose to take part in the whole trip or just one night (or even to drive up and back in a long day). Contact Anthony Kaduck for further details (kaduckintransit at gmail.com)

Monday 17 February (Family Day) 9:15 to about noon Snowy Owls on Wolfe Island

Leader: Erwin Batalla, (simbat at bell.net or 613-389-0144) Wolfe Island is a great place to see Snowy Owls, and the Kingston Field Naturalists know where to find these majestic birds. Spotting scopes will be set up, giving observers great views. Bring your family and friends because this event is open to the public. We will meet at 9:15 am at the Kingston ferry terminal to car pool, and will plan to return around noon.

Winter weather can be unpredictable! Please check the website as additional winter trips may be posted if field conditions are suitable.

JUNIORS

MEETINGS

are at **McArthur Hall** (Union St at Sir John A Blvd)

Meet in Room A334 **6:30 to 8:00 pm**

Thursday 28 November AMPHIBIANS

Thursday 12 December SEASONAL CRAFTS

Thursday 9 January ARCTIC ADAPTATIONS

Thursday 23 January URBAN ECOLOGY



FIELD TRIPS

Saturday 23 November 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Robertson Cottage Dress warmly with good boots or shoes and bring snack, lunch and a drink. Meet at McArthur to carpool. **PLEASE sign up at meeting on November 14 (and no later than Thursday November 21)** by email to n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca) so transportation and hand-outs may be organised. Where required by law, car seats must be supplied.

Saturday 25 January 9:00 am to 12:30 pm Parrott's Bay

Theme: Animal Signs in Winter Meet McArthur 9:00 am. Return 12:30 pm. Dress very warmly, wear good boots. Bring a snack. Please sign up by 23 January. Car seats, where required by law, must be supplied.

Our SEASONAL COIN COLLECTION will go to the World Wildlife Fund to help Arctic Wildlife. Please bring coins to January meetings.

NEW MEMBERS will be welcome at the 9 January meeting. Please register by 15 December. Contact Anne (613-389-6742 or n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca)

TEENS

Details of Teen meetings are sent to members about a week before the trip. Your response at that time is appreciated so transportation can be organised and other arrangements made.

Saturday 14 December 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Christmas Bird Count

We will join the Frontenac Christmas Bird Count survey to seek out, observe, and count birds as part of North America's longest-running Citizen Science project. Meet Tim Hortons, Sydenham Road to carpool to the 9:00 am Raptors 101 workshop in Sydenham. Then join a survey team to census the east side of the survey area, including the Elbow Lake property and adjacent protected areas. Return to Kingston by 3:30 pm. Dress very warmly and bring binoculars if you have them. Also bring lunch, a hot drink and snacks as well as field notebook and pencil. Email to follow a week ahead for registration.

Saturday 11 January 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Bird Identification Workshop Details in email.

Saturday 8 February Wood Duck box check at Meyer Woods property of Land Conservancy for KFLA depending on conditions.



Club News and Updates

We welcome new members: Alex Smith & Felicia Magpantay, Margaret & Jack Payne, Katherine Romba & Fady Alajaji, Donald Gordon, Tyler Irwin, and Luis Reyes.

The Owl Woods is closed from 18 November to 8 December

The Owl Woods is private land. The owners request that birders **stay out** of the Woods during hunting season. KFN asks all birders to respect this long-term agreement.

Christmas Bird Counts 2019

Our local Christmas Bird Counts are seeking participants. You don't have to be an expert to take part, and this is a great opportunity for new members to explore the area. Contact the area coordinators listed below if you wish to participate or for more information.

Note: The following link will take you to a map with all of the Canadian Christmas Bird Counts:

<https://www.birdscanada.org/volunteer/cbc/index.jsp?targetpg=mapviewer&lang=EN>

Saturday 14 December -- Frontenac with Michael Johnson & Carolyn Bonta (613-531-4578 or bonta.johnson at sympatico.ca). Those new to birding won't want to miss the Frontenac CBC, which is dedicated to teaching and learning. Bird specimens will be on display. "Winter Raptors 101" presentation will begin at 9 am. Younger birders are invited to join the Youth Team!

Saturday 14 December – Prince Edward Point with Peter Fuller (613-968-4643 or petefullz at gmail.com)

Sunday 15 December – Kingston with Kathy Webb (kw2 at queensu.ca) and Bill Depew (william.depew at gmail.com). The 9 section leaders within this CBC have all kindly agreed to return this year to coordinate the field participants and surveys within their sections. As before, feeder watchers will also be an integral part of this count. A post-count reception will be held at the Kingston Brewing Company (approx. \$20-\$25/participant).

Monday 16 December – Westport with Wendy Briggs-Jude (wlaird at rideau.net)

Wednesday 18 December – Delta with Jim Thompson (jthompson211 at cogeco.ca)

Thursday 19 December – Thousand Islands with Josh Van Wieren (613-818-1350 or josh.vanwieren at pc.gc.ca)

Saturday 21 December – Christmas Bird Count for Kids! Once again, the Frontenac Arch Biosphere and Parks Canada are planning to team up and host an all-ages, family-friendly CBC 4 Kids event at the Landon Bay Centre. Details will be posted on the FAB website:

www.frontenacarchbiosphere.ca/events

Saturday 21 December – Napanee with Kurt Hennige (613-876-1804 or khennige at xplornet.com)

Friday 27 December – Gananoque with Kurt Hennige (contact as above)

Saturday 28 December – Moscow with Bonnie Bailey (bonnie.bailey at paperwrks.com)

Friday 3 January – Amherst Island with Janet Scott (613-389-4608 or jiscott at kos.net). Come on the 7:30 ferry. Meet at the school; lunch is provided.