



# Kingston Field Naturalists

## September 2021

### 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 normally held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month from September to April. Social starts at 7:00 pm.

### Our next meeting will be Thursday 16 September Our speaker will be Julia Zarankin

Julia Zarankin holds a PhD in Comparative Literature from Princeton University, and was recently awarded an Excellence in Teaching Award from the University of Toronto. She is a proud member of the Toronto Ornithological Club TOC, Ontario Field Ornithologists OFO, Birds Canada, and American Birding Association ABA.

Her writing has appeared in *Audubon*, *Canadian Geographic*, *Birding Magazine*, and *The Globe and Mail*. She was shortlisted for the CBC Short Story Prize in 2020. The Spring 2021 issue of *ONnature* magazine featured her article on removing access barriers to nature.

Julia is the author of *Field Notes from an Unintentional Birder*, a memoir.

**Our September meeting will be via Zoom.** Please check page 4 for Zoom meeting notes.

### Your Nature Reserves!

Your two Nature Reserve managers (Gaye Beckwith at the Helen Quilliam Sanctuary and Richard Brault at the Martin Edwards Reserve) have been busy over the past year. They had some help from Gary Hillaby, Mike and Liz Evans, Betsy Beckwith, Erwin Batalla, Alexandra Simmons, Janet and Bruce Elliott, Anne Robertson, Kathy Webb and Bill Depew.

Gaye has been organizing regular outings at HQS to upgrade the trails, install new signage and control invasive species. New posts and metal signs have been installed at the beginning and end of every trail.

Richard oversees the infrastructure at MER. The electric fence and water trough allow cattle to be grazed there and helps us to maintain a short grass habitat on the property. With the help of Sherri Jensen, Richard has carved a safe thistle-free path to the eastern end of the island. Also, there is a new outhouse on the property made entirely from recycled material.

With all these improvements, we invite all members to visit **your** nature reserves soon. Look for more details in an upcoming Blue Bill.



The Art Bell Trail is on the east side of Bedford Road and starts just south of the culvert.  
Photo: J. Elliott

**Ticks don't respect the 2 meter rule! Wear long sleeves, tuck long pants into socks, and use repellent. Ten minutes in a hot dryer will kill the ticks that come home on your clothes.**

## **Rambles, Field Trips, and other outings**

**Please check the website for any updates on rambles and field trips.**

**RAMBLES** are slow walks to notice nature in all its forms.

Registration is still required for COVID tracking. Registrants will be sent details of meeting place about a week ahead of each ramble. Please contact Anne (nature.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742). Please be aware of problem plants and insects and dress accordingly. Hat, sunscreen and water also recommended.

**Tuesday 7 September 9:30 to 11:30 am on site Roger Candy Trail, Fairmont Home** (Battersea Road) This is a short easy trail through a number of habitats with a good variety of species likely. Details will be sent a week ahead to those who register with Anne (see above).

**Tuesday 21 September 10:00 am to 1:30 pm on site Jones Creek Trails, St Lawrence Islands National Park** (Thousand Islands Parkway). This will be a longer walk (2-3 km) and further afield. Bring lunch. (Times from town: 9:00 am to 2:30 pm.) Details on registration with Anne.

**Tuesday 5 October 9:30 to 11:30 am on site Property of Tessa Clarke** (Kingston Mills). Details on registration with Anne.

**FIELD TRIPS Please contact the leader to register for these trips.**

**Sunday 29 August 8:00 am to 2:00 pm Presqu'île Provincial Park**

Leader Anthony Kaduck (kaduckintransit at gmail.com) Meet at the park gates at 08:00 am. The trip will involve several walks over prepared trails and the beach. We will visit at least four different areas of the park, driving in a convoy between stops. Bring lunch and plenty of liquids and a spotting scope if you have one. Presqu'île is one of the parks that requires booking in advance, even for day visitors. People joining the trip will need to make a booking using the Ontario Parks website: <http://www.ontarioparks.com/dayuse>. Bookings can be made up to five days in advance. Please see the website for more details.

**Saturday 18 September 9:00 am to 2:00 pm (rain date Sunday 19 September) Paddle The Gan**

Leader Gary Hillaby (416-884-2774 or fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org) We will meet at the public launch on River St in Gananoque. We will head north on the Gananoque River seeing what the area offers for nature lovers. All watercraft (canoes/kayaks) and operators should be capable of passing a Ministry of Transport Safety Inspection. In other words you should have life jackets, bailers, etc,etc ....

**Sunday 3 October 9:00 am to ~ noon (rain or shine) Belle Island**

Leader Erwin Batalla (613-389-0144 or simbat at bell.net) We will meet at 9 am at the Tim Hortons at the intersection of John Counter Blvd and Montreal St. We will walk the trail at Belle Park and look for migrating passerines in the park and ducks in the inner harbour. Trip will conclude before noon.

**Saturday 16 October 7:30 am to 2:00 pm (rain date Sunday October 17) Wolfe Island Birding**

Leader Gary Hillaby (416-884-2774 or fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org) We will be exploring potential hotspots on the island looking for fall migrants. We will meet at the parking lot of the Kingston Military Community Sport Centre at 7:30 am sharp to arrange carpooling. Those that are unable to carpool can line up for the 8:00 am ferry.

## **JUNIORS**

### **Registration**

Registration Forms have been sent to all 2020 members. The registration fee is waived for 2020 members and is \$20 for new members. New members may obtain registration forms from the KFN web site:

kingstonfieldnaturalists.org/Youth/Juniors/registration  
or by contacting Anne at n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca.  
DEADLINE for registration is Monday 9 September.  
Registered members will be updated by email.



**Summer projects** are due 28 October.

**Indoor meetings** We are still hoping to have twice monthly indoor Thursday evening meetings but securing rooms is not yet possible. As of 17 August, Ontario will not lift pandemic restrictions in the foreseeable future.

**Field trips** will be held at the end of each month on a Saturday.

**Saturday 25 September Depot Creek Nature Reserve**, near Verona. Details will be emailed to registered members. We plan a day from 9:00 am in town to 3:00 pm back in town. This property has a variety of habitats to explore and practice naturalist skills.

## **TEENS**

**Registration forms** have been sent to all 2020 Teen members and should be returned by Friday 6 September at the latest. There will be no fee for 2021 if you paid a membership for 2020. New members may download a registration form from the KFN website (kingstonfieldnaturalists.org /Youth/Teens/registration). OR contact Anne at: n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca. The fee for new members is \$20.



**Saturday 11 September 9:30 am to 2:30 pm (Times at the site.)**  
**Canoe Trip Mitchell Creek from Snug Harbour** Details will depend on COVID restrictions and will be sent to all registered Teens about 4 September.

Future meetings planned for:

Friday 15 October **Owl Banding**

Saturday 13 November **Ferns** How to recognize and make a collection.

December **Christmas Bird Count**

## Club News and Updates

**Welcome to new members:** Jean Clipsham & family, Rose-Marie Pennock, Marc Brousseau & family, Christy Vodden, Mark Gomes and Susan Schelle, Wallace Stanton & family, Rodney and Denyse Brown, Michael Ehling and Diane Kilcoyne, Peter Freeman, Elissa Smith, Courtney Lanigan, Christine Hough & family, Cheryl Day, Monique Grenier & family.

### Zoom Meeting Updates for 16 September

- If you have any observation pictures that you would like to show, please send them to Ken ([info at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org](mailto:info@kingstonfieldnaturalists.org)) by Wednesday 15 September.
- **No computer? Don't miss the meeting:** Join our monthly meetings by telephone! Contact Carolyn Bonta (613-531-4578) 1-2 days in advance of a meeting to obtain the Meeting ID and Passcode.

**Our 2021 BioBlitz** was held in July at the Fourth Lake Nature Reserve of the Land Conservancy for Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington. The deadline for tally submissions is 31 August; please check with Anne ([n8ture.anne at sympatico.ca](mailto:n8ture.anne@sympatico.ca)). The full BioBlitz report will be in the September BlueBill.

**Queen's Outdoor Field Experience Initiative (QOFEI)** is a new equity, inclusion, diversity, and indigeneity-focused club at Queen's University whose mission is to improve accessibility to fieldwork in biology and related fields and to camping and the outdoors.

QOFEI aims to build a free on-campus gear lending library and is soliciting donations of old field gear to help build the library (e.g., general field equipment and apparel, including items used for naturalist activities such as binoculars, bug nets, etc.).

If you have anything to donate or have any questions, please contact the Queen's graduate student representatives of this initiative: Samreen Munim ([11sm170 at queensu.ca](mailto:11sm170@queensu.ca)) or Kristen Hayward ([k.hayward at queensu.ca](mailto:k.hayward@queensu.ca) or 613-803-5331).

### Anaplasmosis alert

Blacklegged (deer) ticks carrying the bacterium *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* are present in our area. Human anaplasmosis can result from a bite from an infected tick. Unlike Lyme disease, anaplasmosis can occur if the tick is attached for a short time, and there is no rash to signal it. Some people with anaplasmosis don't recall ever being bitten by a tick. Symptoms, which usually occur 5 days – 3 weeks after being bitten, are fever, chills, headache, muscle aches, nausea and vomiting. These symptoms may lead people to seek a COVID test or suspect they have influenza. Anaplasmosis is effectively treated by the antibiotic doxycycline; however, if diagnosis and treatment are delayed, it can become life-threatening. Peak occurrence tends to be in mid summer then again in late fall.

Prevent anaplasmosis by preventing tick bites. Avoid tall grass, wooded and brushy areas and walk in the centre of trails. Wear long pants and shirtsleeves and tuck pant legs into socks. Use insect repellent containing DEET and/or clothing treated with permethrin. Check clothing and body for ticks when you get home. More details can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/anaplasmosis/index.html>