



Kingston Field Naturalists

May and June 2022

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://kingstonfieldnaturalists.org>

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

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.

Thursday 19 May

Merilyn Simonds, well-known local author will present a talk with pictures:

Louise de Kiriline Lawrence:

The Making of a Mid-Century Amateur Ornithologist

In 1935, Louise de Kiriline Lawrence, born into Swedish aristocracy and survivor of the Russian Civil War, retreated to her wilderness cabin on the Mattawa River. There, she discovered birds. Training herself in the art of observation and ornithology, she published ground-breaking studies and wrote six books and scores of magazine stories.

Ms Simonds writes on her website: "I knew Louise during my wilderness years, so it's a memoir, too, one that lays bare the process of piecing together another person's life."

On Sunday 15 May 2:00 to 4:00 pm, Ms Simonds will host a book launch: Coopers' Croft Barn, 1777 Middle Road, Kingston
Refreshments, book sales, launch of video: *Woman, Watching: Louise de Kiriline Lawrence & the Songbirds of Pimisi Bay*.

Short talk/reading at 3:00 pm

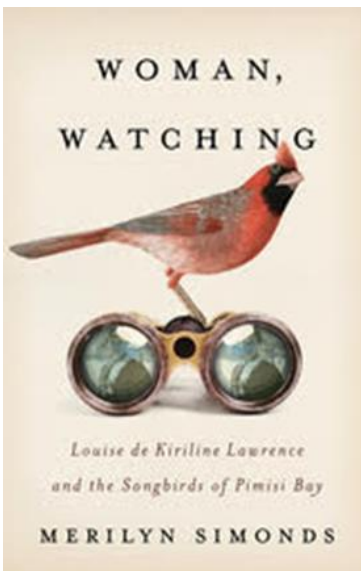
For more information check <https://www.merilynsimonds.com/author-events.html>

Our 2022 BioBlitz will take place Friday 10 June to Saturday 11 June at Camden East Alvar

An **alvar** is an environment on limestone with thin soils and exposed bedrock. Often flooded in the spring, and affected by drought in midsummer, alvars support distinctive flora and fauna. The Camden East Alvar is protected by Nature Conservancy of Canada.

A poster and letter of information have been sent to those on the Blitz mailing list. Details of the BioBlitz program will be sent out in mid-May. To be included in the mailing list please contact Janis at: janis.grant@icloud.com.

Further details will be available in the Summer newsletter: look for it in the first week of June.



Bird Walks at Lemoine Point

Every Wednesday in the month of May, all starting at the south parking lot, rain or shine.

18 May 6:30 am Leader Anthony Kaduck

6:30 pm Leaders Janis Grant, Nancy Spencer

25 May 6:30 am Leader Ken Ross

6:30 pm Leader Gary Hillaby

Rambles, Field Trips, and other outings

Please check the website for any updates.

TICKS are looking for hosts! Wear long sleeves, tuck long pants into socks, use repellent. Ten minutes in a hot dryer kills the ticks that come home on your clothes.

RAMBLES are slow walks to notice nature in all its forms. Be prepared for ticks, wild parsnip, flies of all types, poison ivy. Bring hat, sunscreen, water. For detailed directions please register by the Sunday before the trip with Anne (nature.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742).

Tuesday 17 May 9:00 am to 12:30 pm Camden East Alvar Pre-BioBlitz trip

Tuesday 7 June 9:00 am to 1:30 pm Property of Jeff Peters Inverary area Bring lunch

Tuesday 21 June 9:00 am to 1:30 pm Property of Joanna Atherton Sydenham Lake
Bring lunch.

Tuesday 5 July 9:00 am to 1:30 pm Cataraqui Trail with Joan and Richard Worsfold

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FIELD TRIPS See more excursion notices on page 5

Saturday 14 May 7:30 am -~ 12:30pm (rain date May 15) K & P Trail

Leader Gary Hillaby (fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org or 613-547-8121)

We will be looking for spring migrants along a section of the K&P Trail. This exceptional portion of the trail has an assortment of habitats, all within minutes of Kingston's city centre. We hope to see a variety of returning birds. We will be meeting at Dalton Ave and Binnington Crt. We will be walking on the trail as far as Cordukes Rd and back. You may need sunscreen and bug spray. Register with Gary Hillaby.

Friday 20 May noon to Sunday 22 May noon Spring Round-Up see page 5

There will be two Field trips to local IBA's as part of the Round-up:

Friday 20 May 12:15 pm to 5 pm Amherst Island IBA

Leader Kurt Hennige (khennige at xplornet.com) We will meet at 12:15 pm at the Amherst Island ferry dock in Millhaven to take the ferry to Amherst Island. The visit will include a long walk on rough terrain along the shoreline at the Martin Edwards Reserve. We will return from the island on the 5 pm ferry. Maximum 8 participants plus leader.

Saturday 21 May 6:30 am to 12:00 pm Moscow Marsh and Camden Lake IBA

Leader Anthony Kaduck (kaduckintransit at gmail.com) We will visit the Camden Lake IBA and Moscow Marsh. These sites north of Napanee are regular breeding grounds for a wide number of interesting species including uncommon birds like the Least Bittern, Black Tern, Bobolink and Common Gallinule. The trip will involve a short walk around the marsh, observation of Camden Lake from three viewpoints, and a walk through a mature woodland. In addition to viewing the birds, participants will be able to assist in developing data for the new Ontario Breeding Birds Atlas by recording breeding evidence. The leader(s) will demonstrate how this is done. Register with Anthony Kaduck.

Wednesdays on the Water starting Wednesday 1 June Stay Tuned!!

Starting in June, we are hoping to hold some regular paddling outings to local areas; **please keep an eye on the website for more information.** Depending on interest, these will take place on a weekly or biweekly basis on Wednesday mornings. Our focus will be on *anything and everything in nature*. Your kayak or canoe should have all the province's watercraft safety devices, including a personal flotation device (PFD). Leaders will be Kathy Webb and Bill Depew.

See more field naturalist opportunities on page 5

JUNIORS



Saturday 11 June BioBlitz

Do come and help us catch some invertebrates (butterflies, dragonflies and water creatures) to add to the list of species found at the Camden East Alvar (north of Odessa).

Junior BioBlitz program includes:

10:00 am to noon invertebrate hunt,

Noon BBQ (Kids eat free), Kids quiz.

1:00 to 2:00 pm check out some other species you might see on a list (available at registration desk).

Summer Projects Choose a summer project for a prize:

- A project on a particular group of animals or plants,
- a summer nature diary or
- up to three nature photos taken this year with brief description.

Contact Anne for more details on both the BioBlitz and Summer Projects

(nature.anne at sympatico.ca or 613-389-6742).

TEENS



Friday 10 June to Saturday 11 June BioBlitz

Do try and join this fun event to list as many species as can be recorded on this property in 24 hours. There will be many experts to learn from on all topics from plants to invertebrates to birds. Ask Anne for more information or see KFN website and elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Rock hounding trip TBA

Club News and Updates

Welcome to new members: Jennifer Reimann, David Britton, Dorlisa Robinson, Eva Andre-Fenton & family, Bianca Dauber and Scott Taylor, Nigel and Ann Raincock, Susan Kennedy, John and Sandra McCance.

Thanks to the following members who have agreed to serve on the 2022-2023 KFN executive:

Position	
Honorary President	Ron Weir
President	John Donihee
Past President	Ken Edwards
Vice President	
Treasurer	Larry McCurdy
Recording Secretary	Rose-Marie Burke
Membership Secretary	Kathy Webb
Blue Bill Editor	Peter Waycik
Junior Naturalists	Anne Robertson
Bird Records	
Conservation	Chris Hargreaves
Education	Shirley French
Field Trips	Gary Hillaby
Nature Reserves	Erwin Batalla
Member-at-large, Newsletter	Janet Elliott
Member-at-large, Facebook	Polly Aiken
Member-at-large, Publicity	Jane Revell
Member-at-large	Christine Hough
Member-at-large	Phil Harvey
Non-executive volunteers	
Slide Show	Gaye Beckwith
Website	Anthony Kaduck
Book Auction	Janet Elliott

Have you Renewed your Membership?

The KFN membership year extends from 1 April to 31 March of the following year. The 2021/22 membership year recently ended and we hope that you will renew. To renew your membership, you can proceed in one of several ways:

1. Join or renew **online** using the website <https://kingstonfieldnaturalists.org>. Please note that you do not need a PayPal account to renew online: once you click the "Pay Now" button, you can proceed as a guest by clicking the "Pay with a credit or Visa debit card" button.
2. **Mail a printed membership form** or a note containing your membership information along with a cheque payment to: Kingston Field Naturalists, PO Box 831, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4X6.
3. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Webb by emailing membership@kingstonfieldnaturalists.org

MORE FIELD TRIPS and outings

Friday 20 May noon to Sunday 22 May noon Spring Round-Up

Our 65th Spring Round-Up will be Friday noon to Sunday noon (20 to 22 May). Birds will be counted only within the KFN Bird Area which is a radial distance of 50 km centred on MacDonald Park, Kingston. See the KFN website for more details.

Count as many species and individuals as possible during this most exciting period of the birding year. Choose your favorite birding site within the KFN Bird Area, be it your own backyard, a local park, or migration hotspots like Prince Edward Point, Amherst Island or Wolfe Island.

Bird alone or with a group of birding buddies for as long or short period of time as you like. Bird casually, or bird intensely, or just photograph the birds you enjoy.

All are encouraged to send their sightings as soon as possible to eBird or by email to Mark Read (markdread at gmail.com) to create a master list for the event, crunching the data to produce some statistics to share with everyone in the next Bluebill.

For more info how to participate or how to join a group contact Kurt Hennige (khennige at xplornet.com or 613-876-1804).

See page 2 for Round-up Field Trips.

Saturday 18 June 8:00 am to 3:00 pm (rain date 19 June) Solitude in the Sanctuary

Leader: Gary Hillaby (fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org or 613-547-8121)

Meet at the Helen Quilliam Sanctuary where the culvert crosses Bedford Road. We will start at the headwaters of Rothwell Lake and make our way into Holleford Lake. We will hope to see a variety of species as we navigate this rarely used, secluded waterway of the Helen Quilliam Sanctuary. Your kayak or canoe should have all the province's watercraft safety devices especially your PFD (Personal Floatation Device). Contact Gary Hillaby to register.

Friday 1 July 9:00 am to 1:00 pm (weather day July 2) Butterflies Are Free

Leader Gary Hillaby (fieldtrips at kingstonfieldnaturalists.org or 613-547-8121)

Our focus on this outing will be insects especially butterflies. We will start the day on the Cataraqui Trail at Maple Leaf Road and Opinicon Road. We may stop at other spots on the trail to increase the variety of species to view. To register contact Gary.

Sunday 22 May to Sunday 29 May BELLE PARK PROJECT BIOBLITZ

Being organized by belleparkproject

Using the iNaturalist app, we will generate benchmark data about the rich natural diversity of Belle Park. Until the early 1950s Belle Park was part of the Great Cataraqui Marsh.

From 1954-1974 it was a municipal landfill. In the mid-1970s, the city built a golf course on the buried waste. After major flooding in 2017, the golf course closed. Since that time, 'nature' has been reclaiming the site. An annual bioblitz will help us get a better sense of how the park's ecosystem is changing.

This event is open to everyone. No experience is necessary. Help will be available (see schedule) for anyone unfamiliar with iNaturalist or with the park. Participate in the bioblitz on your own or attend the events being held during the week. Information will be posted on the website: <https://belleparkproject.com/events/bioblitz>

All events start at the Totem Pole (731 Montreal St.)

Conservation Committee Report

SOUTH SHORE MARINE CONSERVATION AREA



The Kingston Field Naturalists are supporting Nature Canada’s campaign to establish a Parks Canada National Marine Conservation Area in the Eastern part of Lake Ontario.

An NMCA would prohibit oil, gas, mineral and aggregate exploration on the lake bed, and put strict limits on the disposal of items from shipping (dumping). Activities that are ecologically sustainable would still be allowed, including hunting, fishing, shipping, recreational activities and tourism.

We are excited by the project which would protect our local environment and contribute to the Federal Government’s target of protecting 25% of Canadian land and freshwater by 2025.

More information about NMCAs can be found by following the link below to Nature Canada’s April newsletter, which encourages readers to contact the Ministers involved. We are currently trying to arrange a meeting with our MP Mark Gerretsen; KFN members could also write to him.

Help Establish a National Marine Conservation Area in Lake Ontario. Send a letter to <https://act.naturecanada.ca/page/103545/action/1>. Or write to Steven Guilbeault Minister of Environment and Climate Change of Canada.

DAVIS TANNERY SITE

The request for Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw Amendments to allow Patry Developments to work on the Davis Tannery site is going to Planning Committee on May 19th. It is not clear whether this will be the same request and proposal that was made last August, or whether it has been modified in response to concerns expressed at the public meetings.

PROPOSED CONDO TOWERS AT 1102 KING ST

The proposal to build two side by side condo towers in Commodore's Cove - one of 24 stories and the other 25 stories – goes before Planning Committee on 16 June. The towers would be predominantly glass, and given their location on the waterfront, there is concern about the potential for a high number of birds colliding with the windows. It is hoped that the developer will take mitigation measures like “bird friendly” glass. City staff will encourage them to do so, however, the City does not have the power under the Planning Act to regulate to that level of detail regarding windows.

LEMOINE POINT BARN SWALLOW WATCH

If you are at the south end of Lemoine Point and notice activity around the barn swallow “chalet” please let Chris know ([hargreavescp at sympatico.ca](mailto:hargreavescp@sympatico.ca)).