



Saskatoon Nature Society Newsletter

March 2018

Vol. 40 No. 3

March Meeting

Annual General Meeting and
Members' Images Night

7:30 PM Thursday, March 15
Room 106, Biology Bldg., U. of S. campus

The evening will begin with a business meeting including the election of the 2018/19 Board of Directors and a presentation of the 2017 financial statement.

Following the business meeting will be the annual Members' Images Night, one of the highlights of the year. Any member may show up to 10 images that illustrate natural history interests and activities, and may speak briefly about them (no longer than 2 minutes please).

Digital images labelled with your name should be left with the projectionist before the start of the meeting. Images may be individual files, assembled as a Power Point or similar type of presentation, or an executable file if you are using a slideshow editing program. Please be sure your presentation runs on a standard PC. Individual images must be in jpeg format with the longest dimension of no more than 1500 pixels. Name your images so that they display in the correct order. Images should be stored in a folder, indicating your name and saved on a USB flash drive.



Field Trips

Everyone is welcome to participate in any field trip. Bring your friends. Carpooling for out-of-town trips is arranged at the meeting place; there is no charge other than to share gasoline costs. Phone the trip leader if you have any questions. Participants are free to depart early if they wish. Members with FRS radios should bring them on out of town trips. Check our website at www.saskatoonnaturesociety.sk.ca for last minute changes or cancellations and to download checklists. Bus Information: 306-975-3100.

Many of our trip destinations are described in the 3rd edition of "A Guide to Nature Viewing Sites in and around Saskatoon" available from www.saskatoonnaturesociety.sk.ca/books/nature_viewing_sites.html.

Sunday, March 4, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM Pike Lake birding

We will look for winter visitors to the park. Wear warm clothing and suitable footwear. The chickadees will gratefully accept donations of sunflower seeds.

Meet by the grain elevator at the Western Development Museum parking lot on Lorne Ave.

Bus: Route 1 Exhibition departs downtown terminal at 12:31 PM and arrives on Lorne Avenue next to museum about 12:50 PM.

Leader: Hilda Noton (306-374-0674)
Guide to Nature Viewing Sites: Page 108

Sunday, March 18, 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM Forestry Farm Birding

A birding trip to the Forestry Farm Park to look for winter songbirds. Wear warm clothing and suitable footwear.

Meet at the south end of what is now called the overflow parking lot. This is the lot by the former zoo entrance. (No Bus Service)

Leader: John Patterson (306-249-0468)

more field trips on page 2

President's Corner

It is March already so time for our annual general meeting and members' image night. Please join us for a short business meeting, followed by what is always amazing and interesting pictures taken by our members. Also in March is Gardenscape, to be held March 25-28. It is a great opportunity to inform the public about our organization so please consider volunteering for a few hours at our display. Besides helping support the Society, you will save yourself the cost of admission to the event. This year, Jan Shadick with Living Sky Wildlife Rehabilitation will be giving a talk on the afternoon of Mar 25 on "Bird Safe Yards". I mentioned last month that Jan is leading a local initiative, including with help from the Society, to follow up on the visit of Michael Mesure, of FLAP (Fatal Light Attraction Protection) Canada during the 2017 Nature City Festival.

In addition to a presentation at Gardenscape, a one page information sheet about bird strikes on windows has been developed by the group to post on our website, and will be distributed to the city's community associations for inclusion in their newsletters. We want to get more information about the scope of the problem in the Saskatoon area, and provide residents with preventative measures and action to take if they find dead or injured birds. Research estimates 25 million birds die from colliding with windows every year in Canada. This is especially a problem during spring and fall migration as birds have no understanding of glass. If not killed outright, an injured bird is an easy target for predators. Windows or glass railings often deceive birds since trees, sky, and houseplants reflected in windows or a view straight through a building may appear as an unobstructed flight path.

Those of you who walk or drive along Spadina Crescent will note that there is more work planned on the Meewasin Trail from Queen St. to the Children's Discovery Museum (site of the former Mendel Gallery). The Society has provided input to Meewasin on this next phase of work to encourage protection of habitat provided by existing Manitoba Maples, ash and shrubs.

Plans are being made for field trips in the spring. Please contact Stan Shadick at stan.shadick@usask.ca or 306-652-5975 if you wish to lead a field trip or you have an idea for a field trip.

Thank you to everyone for your support during my first year as president.

Valerie Martz

Field Trips (continued)

Thursday, March 29, 7:00 PM–10:00 PM

Saw-whet Owling near Pike Lake

We will listen for owls calling after dark. Wear warm clothes and suitable footwear, and bring a flashlight and a hot drink. **Meet** by the grain elevator at the Western Development Museum parking lot on Lorne Ave.

Bus: Route 1 Exhibition departs downtown terminal at 6:31 PM and arrives at meeting place about 6:50 PM. Return bus leaves hourly.

Leader: Michael Williams (306-242-5383)

Guide to Nature Viewing Sites: Page 108

Saturday, April 7, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Bluebird Hike to Langham area

We will drive the roads north of Langham to look for bluebirds and possibly hike a trail to the river. Wear warm clothes and suitable footwear. Bring a lunch if you wish to stay past noon.

Meet at SW corner of the parking of Lawson Heights Mall. Alternatively, you may meet us at the Langham Petro Canada station about 9:30 am. Please wait for our convoy to arrive there. Wear your binoculars.

Bus: Route 12 River Heights departs downtown terminal at 8:16 AM and arrives at Lawson terminal at 8:43 am. Walk to SW corner of parking lot.

Leader: John Patterson (306-249-0468).

Wednesday, April 11, 6:30PM–8:00PM

Gull Identification

A chance to learn gulls. There should be at least four species present and maybe a rarity. We will carpool and drive to a variety of gull hangouts along the river in the city. Wear warm clothes and suitable footwear.

Meet in the riverside parking lot south of the Mendel Art Gallery.

Leader: Kyrone Giroux (306-281-6996)

Sat – Sun, April 14 – 15

Prince Albert National Park owling weekend

Members only trip. We will drive to northern areas looking and listening for Boreal, Saw-whet, Barred, Great Gray and Northern Hawk Owls plus songbirds. Participants may leave early. Bring a lunch. You must register for the trip before April 1 by contacting the leader for accommodation and other trip planning details. **Space is limited.**

Leaving at 9:00 AM

Meet near SW corner of Lawson Heights Mall parking lot.

Leader: Martin Stoffel (306-230-9291)

Field Trips (continued)

Wednesday, April 18, 6:30 PM–8:00 PM
Crocus Evening Hike to Cranberry Flats

We will hike the prairie looking for crocus blooms. Check the website in case this trip is postponed due to a late flowering season. Wear warm clothes and suitable footwear.

Meet by the grain elevator at the Western Development Museum parking lot on Lorne Ave.

Bus: Route 1 Exhibition departs downtown terminal at 6:01 PM and arrives at museum stop on Lorne Ave about 6:21 PM. Return bus leaves hourly.

Leader: Sara Bryson (306-261-6156)
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Young Naturalists

The Young Naturalists is all about nature activities for kids and their families. Each program offers interesting activities geared for children aged 5 to 11 years. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Enrolment is limited on most programs and often programs fill up over a month in advance, so register early. To register or for more information e-mail saskatoonnaturekids@gmail.com. Visit the Young Naturalists' website for detailed information about the upcoming programs or to check out our monthly NatureKids newsletter at www.saskatoonzoosociety.ca/programs/young-naturalists/

Upcoming Young Naturalists Programs:

Saturday, March 17	Owl Pellet Dissection
Saturday, April 14	Birdhouse Workshop
Sunday, April 22	Crocus Hike
Saturday, May 5	Pike Lake Field Trip
May 2018 TBA	Great Horned Owl Field Trip
May 30 - July 7	Bluebird Trail

Golden Eagles

The Golden Eagles, a sub-group of Saskatoon Nature Society, invites retirees and partners who are interested in birds and the natural world to join our field trips. Participants should be members of the Saskatoon Nature Society and consider membership in Nature Saskatchewan, our provincial affiliate.

Bring lunch, drinks and chairs, unless otherwise noted. Members with CB or FRS radios should bring them on out-of-town trips.

Carpooling for out-of-town trips is usually arranged at the meeting place. Participants are expected to share gasoline costs and should make arrangements with the driver to do so. Unless indicated, there is no other charge. However, if a trip involves a guided tour of a facility, participants may be asked to make a donation to the facility.

Participants can depart early, if they wish. Phone trip leader if you have any questions. Dress for the weather.

Unless otherwise arranged, we meet on Thursdays at Churchill Shopping Center, Taylor St. & Clarence Ave.

April 5 8:00 a.m.
Bluebirds in the Merrill Hills.

Picnic lunch at Pike Lake.

Leader: Hilda Noton (306-374-0674)

April 12 8:00 a.m.
Crocuses and possible bluebirds in the NE Swale

Picnic lunch at the Forestry Farm.

Meet on the north side of the parking lot at Attridge Co-op grocery store (Attridge & Lowe Road)

Leader: Renny Grilz (from Meewasin)

April 19 8:00 a.m.
Brightwater Marsh (Page 30, Nature Viewing Sites)

Picnic lunch at Blackstrap

Leaders: Michael Williams (306-242-5383)

Yvonne Cuttle (306) 374-5228)



Golden Eagles (cont.)

**April 26 8:00 a.m.
Meachem Artists**

We will meet artists June Jacobs and Anita Rocamora. June does felting, embroidery and appliqué. Anita is a potter and sculptor.

We will check sloughs on the way to Meachem.
Picnic lunch at Meachem Park.

Leader: Joan Feather (306-653-3160)

**May 3 8:30 a.m.
Chorney Acreage**

Mike Chorney's acreage located just south of Stonebridge.
Picnic lunch at Beaver Creek.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Churchill

Leader: Hilda Noton (306-374-0674)



Book Sale

Prior to the AGM & Members' Image Night

**7:00- 7:30 pm on
March 15**

in front of

Rm 106 Biology

Announcements and Reports

Volunteers Needed for GardenScape Display

The annual GardenScape event runs for three days from Friday, March 23 to Sunday, March 25. This annual gardening show attracts thousands of people to Prairieland Park to learn everything about backyard and outdoor living from Super Dogs to the latest gardening and plant products. The Saskatoon Nature Society will be there with two displays: one promoting the Saskatoon Nature Society and one promoting the importance of wetlands.

We need your help to staff our display. Shifts (2.5 hours) are available all three days in the morning, afternoon and evening. To volunteer please e-mail Greg Fenty at greg.fenty@gmail.com. One of the perks of volunteering is you receive free admission to GardenScape on the day you volunteer. Help promote our Society and kick off spring by taking in GardenScape. For more information on GardenScape visit <http://www.gardenscapeshow.ca/>



Receive SNS newsletter by e-mail

Please consider switching from a paper copy of the SNS newsletter to an electronic copy. You can create a folder in your email system to save your back issues of the newsletters. You will help us save on paper, stamps, and volunteer time. You will get information more quickly and get pictures in color.

Please keep your email address up-to-date

If you are receiving the Newsletter via email and you change your ISP or your email address, remember to send the updated address to:

Claire Bullaro at c.bear@sasktel.net

Earth Hour
Saturday, March 24 at 8:30 p.m.

WWF-Canada calls on people across the country to join others around the world to send a strong global message and show your commitment to the planet. You can switch on your social power by simply switching off your lights. You can learn more and sign up at <https://www.earthhour.org>

The 12th annual Earth Hour takes place at 8:30 p.m. local time on Saturday, March 24, 2018. Six continents, over 170 countries, and 24 time zones will be united as a global community, making our voices heard through individual action. Turn off as much power as you can and focus on your commitment to climate action for the rest of this year.

Upcoming SNS Displays

March 23-25 - GardenScape
April 13 – 15 Living Green Expo



Seedy Saturday

This year, the 20th annual Seedy Saturday will take place on Saturday March 10th, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Station 20 West (1120 20th St W).

Admission will be \$2.00 (free for students/children). The event features the annual seed exchange, environmental and horticultural exhibitors and vendors, workshops, musical entertainment and children's activities. For more information visit the CHEP Good Food Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CHEPGoodFood/>



SNS on Facebook

Our Facebook page needs material. Members are encouraged to upload photos or other media directly through the SNS page, or alternatively to submit files and any descriptive information to saskatoonnaturesociety@gmail.com Members with active Facebook accounts can access and promote our page by liking us and sharing our page with others on Facebook.

Saskatoon Nature Society

Mailing address:

Box 448, RPO University
Saskatoon, SK S7N 4J8

Website:

www.SaskatoonNatureSociety.sk.ca

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/SaskatoonNatureSociety

Newsletter

The deadline for the April Newsletter is March 23. Please send any announcements or articles to Gordon Edwards (306-380-2442). The publisher would appreciate if articles are complete and submitted electronically.

email: saskgord58@gmail.com

Chairs and Coordinators

Brochure	Mary Jean Roy.....	306-665-0987	
Coffee	Hilda Voth.....	306-242-0198	
Display	Greg Fenty.....	306-370-8839 greg.fenty@gmail.com
Facebook Editor	Dale Jefferson.....	306-371-8198 SaskatoonNatureSociety@gmail.com
Field Trips	Stan Shadick.....	306-652-5975 stan.shadick@usask.ca
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Board of Directors

President	Valerie Martz.....	306-249-0468 vmartz@shaw.ca
Past President	Marten Stoffel.....	306-230-9291 asio.otus@sasktel.net
Vice President	Vacant		
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Treasurer	Yvonne Cuttle.....	306-374-5228 cuttyg@shaw.ca
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Director	Joshua Erikson.....	 airrocksun@gmail.com
Director	Robert Johanson.....	306-653-2610 robert.johanson@usask.ca
Director	Greg Fenty.....	306-370-8839 greg.fenty@gmail.com
Director	Stan Shadick.....	306-652-5975 stan.shadick@usask.ca
Director	Guy Wapple.....	306-249-3280 gswap@sasktel.net

The board of directors meets about once a month, usually in the week before the monthly meeting. If you wish to bring an item to the attention of the board, please contact the president.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	March			1	2	3
4 Pike Lake birding	5	6	7	8	9	10 Seedy Saturday
11	12	13	14	15 Annual General Meeting	16	17 YN: Owl Pellets
18 Forestry Farm Birding	19	20	21	22	23 Gardenscape	24 Gardenscape Earth Hour
25 Gardenscape	26	27	28	29 Saw-whet Owling	30	31

1	2	3	4	5 GE: Merrill Hills	6	7 Bluebird Hike
8	9	10	11 Gull Identification	12 GE: North-east Swale	13	14 Owling Weekend YN: Birdhouse
15 Owling Weekend	16	17	18 Crocus Hike	19 Monthly Meeting GE: Brightwater Marsh	20	21
22 YN: Crocus Hike	23	24	25	26 GE: Meacham Artists	27	28
29	30			April		

Membership Renewals

All SNS memberships expire on December 31; failure to renew by then may interrupt delivery of your *Newsletter*. Check the upper right corner of your mailing label to see the year your membership expires. New memberships paid after July 1 will continue through the following year. Donations qualify for a tax receipt. Mail in your completed form or bring it to the next meeting.

Membership in the Saskatoon Nature Society

The Saskatoon Nature Society publishes ten newsletters per year informing members of field trips and other activities. Except in the summer, monthly meetings present speakers on a wide range of nature related topics.

Please check: Renewal New Member Change of Address

Membership Category: Individual \$20/yr Family \$30/yr Junior (<19yrs) \$5/yr

Date: _____

Name(s) (please print neatly): _____

(Names/Ages of Children): _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

email: _____ Phone: _____

I would like to receive the SNS *Newsletter* electronically via email at the above address

Membership fee \$ _____ /yr x _____ year(s) (one to five) = \$ _____

Donation (designate a fund if desired)

Kids in Nature Conservation and Education Nature Capital General Fund

One-time donation: \$ _____

Monthly donation:..... \$ _____ /month

For a monthly donation, either (a) attach a cheque marked "VOID" and we will send you a Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) form to be completed and returned to start the process, or (b) download the PAD form from our website (SaskatoonNatureSociety.sk.ca), complete the form and attach a cheque marked "VOID" and mail to the address below.

Option: Membership in Nature Saskatchewan (see below) \$ _____

TOTAL (please make your cheque payable to Saskatoon Nature Society)..... \$ _____

Mail to: Treasurer, Saskatoon Nature Society, Box 448, RPO University, Saskatoon, SK S7N 4J8

Membership in Nature Saskatchewan

The Saskatoon Nature Society is affiliated with the provincial society, Nature Saskatchewan, but membership is separate and the fee schedule is different. Renewing your provincial membership through SNS earns us a \$2 commission. Nature Saskatchewan is a strong advocate for conservation and education in the province. Benefits of membership include the quarterly journal *Blue Jay*, and spring and fall meets at various locations in the province. More information is available on their web site: www.naturesask.ca. **Note: multi-year Nature Saskatchewan memberships are no longer available**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Electronic</u>	<u>Print</u>	
Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	
Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	
Senior (>64yrs)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
Foreign	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	
Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	