



Nature News

Volume 31, Number 2
<http://naturecalgary.com>

Newsletter of the Calgary Field Naturalists' Society
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naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca

October 2009

Wed Oct 21
Amphibian ecology and diseases in the Northwest Territories

Nature Calgary General Meeting

Wed Oct 21, 7:30 pm: Amphibian ecology and diseases in the Northwest Territories - Insights into causes of global amphibian declines from North of 60 with Dr. Danna Schock.

Wed Nov 18, 7:30 pm: TBA

*All general meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (except June, July & August) at 7:30pm, in **The Burnswest Theatre, Fort Calgary**, and are open to the public. To suggest a speaker or topic please call John McFaul 403-289-9517 or email naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca.*



Burrowing Owl © Bob Frew

Nature Calgary Issues, Events and Updates

Get tickets by **Oct 23rd** for the **Nature Calgary Annual Banquet, Saturday, November 7** (6pm – 10pm), at the Best Western Village Park Inn, 1804 Crowchild Trail NW, Calgary.

Speaker: **Dr. Stephen Herrero**, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Science at University of Calgary, world-renowned expert on grizzly bear ecology, behaviour and conservation. For tickets, or more information about the banquet, contact Linda and John Stewart at 403-244-0505 or stewart3*.*@telusplanet.net (remove *'s).

For more info, see the poster on the back of the newsletter.

Wed Oct 7
Birds in the Calgary Area

Albertabird

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Albertabird>

Nature Calgary Study Groups

Bird Study Group

Wed, Oct 7 - Birds in the Calgary Area - joint presentation of photographs by Mary Coughlin and Kathleen Roman.

Wed Nov 4 - Birding Ethiopia - with Brian Elder and Phil Cram

Bird Study Group meets 1st Wednesday of the month, Room 211, BioSciences Building, U of C except June through August when field trips replace the meetings. Contact Eric Tull 403-295-0830, [tull.*@ucalgary.ca](mailto:tull*.*@ucalgary.ca) (remove *'s).*

2010 Calgary Big Year Birding Competition! Join us in 2010 in our Calgary-wide birding competition! It's free and open to all. There will be prizes, fun events, field trips and get-togethers throughout the year. Sign up now to be kept up-to-date with news about the competition and to be informed of events in which you can participate. For more information and to register see <http://birdcomp.fanweb.ca/2010/> and watch the web and Nature News for updates.



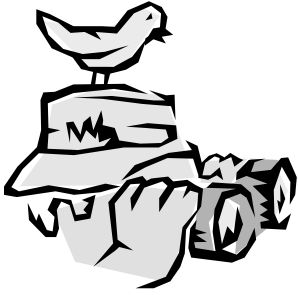
Botany Study Group

Botany Study Group meets during the summer months. Contact Suzanne Visser 403-288-0658 or [svisser.*@ucalgary.ca](mailto:svisser*.*@ucalgary.ca)(remove *'s) for further details.*



Gentiana crinita
© Linda Vaxvick

Adopt-a-Plant Program
Conservation of Alberta's rare native plants
<http://ab.adoptaplant.ca>



All Nature Calgary
field trips are free
and open to all.

Lead a field trip!

To share your
knowledge of a
favourite location
call Gus at
403-243-2248

CFNS & Inglewood
24hr Rare Bird Alert
403-221-4519
Updated Mon & Thu

Field trip leaders please
turn in signed **waiver**
forms.

Mail to Nature Calgary,
Box 981 Stn. M, Calgary,
AB, T2P 2K4,
or hand in at the General
and Bird Study Group
meeting welcome tables.
Latest version of the
waiver form is available
on the Nature Calgary web
<http://tinyurl.com/NCform>.

Please submit a list of bird
species seen on trips to
Brooke at email address on
page 3.

Calling All
Photographers !!

The Nature Calgary web
needs photographs!

If you are willing to allow
your photographs to be
used on the web, please
contact Jan Brigden at
email address on page 3 or
ph. 403-275-1582.

Nature Calgary Field Trips

Check http://www.naturecalgary.com/field_trips.html for new trips and updates.

Trips that are highlighted require pre-registration.

...September

Sat Sep 19, 8:30am: Bird Windham/Carseland Prov. Park. Bring lunch. Meet at Anderson LRT (Macleod Tr) S. of pedestrian walkway. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

Sun Sep 20, 8:30am: Bird Griffith Woods Park, 2.5km W on Hwy 8 from Sarcee Tr SW, then left at 69 St SW into Discovery Ridge. Continue straight at traffic circle, then left on Discovery Link into parking lot. Leader, Grant Brydle, 720-4957.

Sat Sep 26, 9am: Bird Mallard Point, E end of Canyon Meadows Dr SE. Leader, Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

Sun Sep 27, 8:30am: Bird Wyndham-Carseland Prov. Park. Bring lunch. Meet at Anderson LRT (Macleod Tr) S. of pedestrian walkway. Leader, Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

Sun Sep 27, 9am: See the huge and unusual trees of Bowness Park; trees over 1 m in diameter, over 100+ ft tall; also the scarlet-hued leaves of Red Maple, etc. Meet in first parking lot, Bowness Park, 48 Av, W of 85 St NW. Leader, Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

...October

Thu Oct 1, 8am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leaders, Aileen Pelzer/Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Sat Oct 3, 9am: Bird Votier's Flats, FCPP at South end of Elbow Drive SW. Leader, Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

Sun Oct 4, 8:30am: Bird Eagle Lake and vicinity. Meet Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, E end of 9 Av SE. Leader, Rob Worona, 403-984-7655.

Sat Oct 10, 9:30am: Peak of Golden Eagle Migration, Mt. Lorette. Bring lunch. Meet Assumption School, 34th Av NW (NW corner of Sarcee Tr at Hwy #1). Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

Sun Oct 11, 9am: Bird North Glenmore Park. Meet Weaselhead Parking lot, 37 St & 66 Av SW. Leader, Rob Worona, 403-984-7655.

Sat Oct 17, 8am: Full day Raptor and Eagle Watching, Windy Point, Sheep River. Meet Anderson LRT (Macleod Tr), S of Pedestrian Overpass. Bring lunch, thermos of hot drink, warm, windproof clothing. 350 m climb to lookout site. Leader, Peter Roxburgh, 403-271-7033.

Sat Oct 17, 9:30am: Late fall birding for rare gulls, loons, other waterfowl, late passerines and others (approximately 6 hrs). Meet N. Glenmore Park, in large lot overlooking the reservoir, west of the rowing club. Leader Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878.

Sun Oct 18, Bird Griffith Woods Park, 2.5km W on Hwy 8 from Sarcee Tr SW, then left at 69 St SW into Discovery Ridge. Continue straight at traffic circle, then left on Discovery Link into parking lot. Leader, Grant Brydle, 403-720-4957

Sat Oct 24, 9:30am: See and learn to identify mosses and lichens. Meet at Bebo Grove, FCPP, S end of 24 St SW. Leader, Sandra Davis, 403-475-9347.

...November (NOTE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS SUNDAY NOV 1ST)

Sun Nov 1, 8:15am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leaders, Aileen Pelzer/Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Sun Nov 8, 9am: Bird the Bow River. Meet FCPP HQ parking lot, off Bow Bottom Trail SE. Leader, Tony Timmons, 403-256-0754.

Sun Nov 15, 9am: Bird Bebo Grove-Shannon Terrace, FCPP. Meet parking lot S end of 24 St SW. Leader, Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

Sun Nov 22, 9am: Bird Votier's Flats, FCPP, S end of Elbow Dr SW. Leader, Grant Brydle, 403-720-4957.

Sun Nov 29, 8:30am; Bird Sibbald/Exshaw/Harvie Heights. Meet Assumption School, 34th Av NW (NW corner of Sarcee Tr at Hwy #1). Bring lunch. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

...December

Tue Dec 1, 8:30am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leaders, Aileen Pelzer/Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Of General Interest

For more nature activities in the Calgary area visit:

Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society (CPAWS)

<http://cpawscalgary.org>

Weaselhead & Glenmore Park Preservation Society

<http://talkaboutwildlife.ca>

Alberta Wilderness Association

<http://albertawilderness.ca>

Calgary Area Outdoor Council (CAOC)

<http://www.caoc.ab.ca>

Friends of Fish Creek

<http://friendsoffishcreek.org>

Cross Conservation Area

<http://crossconservation.org>

The Curse of the Labrador Duck – talk by Dr Glen Chilton
Tuesday, September 22, 7:30 pm, St. Mary's University College, Midlands Building, 250 - 146th Ave SE, Calgary. Free Admission. <http://www.glenchilton.com>

Margaret Atwood's *The Year of the Flood* book launch and theatrical performance, September 29, 7:00 pm at Knox United Church. Ticket proceeds benefit Nature Canada's conservation work at Important Bird Areas in Canada. See http://www.naturecanada.ca/enews_aug09_atwood.asp

Fish Creek Provincial Park Presentations: a series of five presentations on provincial parks starts October 14th with "**Discover Dinosaur Provincial Park**" at the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre at Shannon Terrace. For more information see <http://www.fish-creek.org> or phone (403) 297-7927. Admission \$6.

Calgary Zoo has many programs and presentations ranging from Antarctica to "Naturalist 101" starting in October. See <http://www.calgaryzoo.org> or phone (403) 232-9300. Fees benefit the zoo's Conservation Outreach programs.

Calgary Science Network Saturday Oct 17: Rock 'n' Fossil Road Show: Bring your mystery rocks for scientists to identify. Drop in 11-3 at Nose Hill Public Library. A fun, FREE family event! See <http://www.calgarysciencenetwork.ca>

Alberta Palaeontological Society's new book ***Guide to Common Vertebrate Fossils from the Cretaceous of Alberta***: see <http://www.albertapaleo.org>

Calgary Rock and Alpine Society meetings: Oct 8 7:30 pm "Alpine Plants of Andalusia". Nov 12 7:30 pm "What is an Alpine Plant?". Lakeview Comm. Hall. See <http://www.CRAGS.ca>

Photo Contests 2009-2010 - The Natural Areas Adopt-A-Park program is looking for photos taken in Calgary's Natural Environment Parks taken by amateur photographers. For more information see <http://www.calgary.ca> and search on "photo contest", or contact Linda Vaxvick at 403-239-9434.

Bowmont NEP: deadline Oct 9, 2009

Twelve Mile Coulee NEP: deadline Feb 12, 2010

Weaselhead NEP: deadline Jan 10, 2010

Federal Government Invasive Species Web Portal (new): <http://www.invasivespecies.gc.ca>

For details of these and other volunteer opportunities, email naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca

or see the volunteers' page at <http://naturecalgary.com>

Volunteer Opportunities

Nature Calgary is operated entirely by volunteers who generously give their skills and time. Volunteers have the opportunity to meet others with similar interests in a fun and rewarding experience. Would you like to participate?

Nature Calgary Board members needed - Publicity Director, Directors-at-Large, and Manager Volunteers - contact Jamie 403-243-7232 for details.

Non-board positions - Membership Promotion, Field Trip Leader and Welcome Table Volunteers - contact Nature Calgary for more information.

naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca

Nature Calgary, PO Box 981, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

Nature Calgary Memberships

Individual \$20.00/yr
Family \$25.00/yr
Contact Donna,
403-276-7799



please recycle

Nature Calgary members receive discounts at businesses shown below (with membership card)

Campers Village (10% discount)

7208 Macleod Tr SE 403-252-3338

The Wild Bird Store (10% discount)

D3-8330 Macleod Tr S 403-640-2632

Calgary Honda (special discounted rates)

Anderson & Macleod 403-253-6531, x 4021

Nature Calgary (Calgary Field Naturalists' Society) publishes **Nature News** 8 times per year. Send copy to Linda lvaxvick*@*telus.net, Brooke brooke*@*webfoundations.com and Jan jbrigden*@*telus.net (remove *) ph: 403-275-1582.

Deadline for the December/January issue is Friday November 13, 2009.



Nature Calgary Banquet '09



**Feature Presentation:
Discoveries About Bears**

**With guest speaker:
Dr. Stephen Herrero**

**Join us on
Saturday November 7, 2009**
Best Western Village Park Inn
1804 Crowchild Trail NW, Calgary

Time: 6 - 7 pm: Cash Bar
7 pm: Three course sit-down dinner (choice of prime rib roast of beef, fillet of halibut or vegetarian selection)
8 pm: Feature Presentation "***Discoveries about Bears***"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Stephen Herrero, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Design at the University of Calgary, is recognized world-wide as the leading authority on grizzly bear ecology, behaviour and conservation, and is the chair of the Eastern Slopes Grizzly Project. See www.canadianrockies.net/grizzly/final_report.html.

Dr. Herrero's presentation is sure to entertain and inform us as he describes many fascinating—and some unexpected, discoveries made during his years of research and contact with these remarkable creatures.

Limited Tickets Available: \$45 Nature Calgary members, \$50 non-members.

Reserve yours now by calling Linda or John Stewart (403) 244-0505.

Send cheques (payable to Nature Calgary) to:
Nature Calgary, 830 – 18 Ave. SW, Calgary T2T 0G7
(please indicate your menu choice and include your contact information).

Final deadline for tickets is October 23.