



Nature News

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Nature Calgary (Calgary Field Naturalists' Society)

September 2017

President: John McFaul 403-289-9517

email: president*@naturecalgary.com

Dear Nature Calgary members,

In the near future Nature Calgary will be sending all of you a short email survey to help the executive better understand our membership interests and concerns. This will guide the executive in making your membership in Nature Calgary a more rewarding experience. When the survey arrives please fill it out and return at your earliest convenience.

Thanks,

John McFaul

President

Nature Calgary

Nature Calgary's Speaker Series

Wed Sep 20: South Africa. Melanie Seneviratne will be speaking about her recent trip to South Africa where she visited Cape Town, the Garden Route, and experienced safari adventures. This presentation will explore South Africa's beauty, wildlife and a little bit of history.

Wed Oct 18: Northern India - Mughals, mammals and modern life. Join presenter Andrew Hart as he investigates the history, natural history and modern life of the Golden Triangle and Varanasi regions of Northern India.

Speaker meetings are now held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from September to May, at 7:30pm, at Cardel Theatre (180 Quarry Park Blvd SE), and are open to all. To suggest a speaker contact John McFaul at 403-289-9517 or [info@naturecalgary.com](mailto:info*@naturecalgary.com).*

The Theatre is made available to non-profit organizations at very low cost by Cardel Foundations. Please show your appreciation by bringing donations of non-perishable food for the Calgary Food Bank.

Directions: On Deerfoot Tr, take the EAST Glenmore Tr exit. After you cross the Bow River, take the next exit (18 St. SE) and head south. At the 5th intersection, turn left onto Quarry Park Blvd SE, and then left again into the parking lot for CARDEL. Cardel Theatre map at <http://cardeltheatre.com>



Taj Mahal
©Andrew Hart

Issues, Events and Updates

School Grants: Schools taking students out into nature and away from their school grounds can apply for a grant at <https://www.naturecalgary.com/get-involved/grants/>. Money is now available for trips in the 2017-18 school year.



Bear grass
©Vincent Piotrowski

Thanks to everyone who participated in the June 24 Bus Trip. This year, 48 participants travelled by bus to Waterton National Park to take in its scenic beauty. Botanical highlights were the iconic Bear Grass and Yellow Angelica, which are only found in Waterton. Birds seen included: Osprey, Black terns, Hermit's thrush and Yellow-throated warbler.

Bus Trip Plant List (courtesy of Don Stiles):

Fairybells, bear grass, white camas, common blue-eyed grass, striped coralroot, glacier lily, pale comandra, western spring beauty, mouse-ear chickweed, red/white baneberry, western anemone/chalice, veiny meadow rue, bishop's cap, wild strawberry, three-flowered avens, cinquefoil, shrubby cinquefoil, prairie rose, thimbleberry, sulphur hedysarum, perennial lupine, black medick, yellow sweet-clover, showy locoweed, wild vetch, sticky purple geranium, wild blue flax, evergreen violet, yellow angelica, cow parsnip, menziesia, northern gentian, woolly gromwell, paintbrush, beardtongue, northern bedstraw, bracted honeysuckle, common yarrow, rosy pussytoes, shining arnica, balsamroot, tufted fleabane, gaillardia, prairie groundsel, common dandelion, goat's beard.

Nature Calgary and Weaselhead/Glenmore Park Preservation Society present the results of the joint project "Manual control of invasive cotoneaster - impact of timing and method of removal" at the Bow River Basin Council on Sep 13. Presented by Sarah Nevill and Cassiano Porto. 9:45am - 10:15 at the City of Calgary Water Resources Building, Spring Gardens - Building D, 816 - 40th Av NE.

Impromptu walks: Just found a great site for a nature walk? Please contact our Field Trip Coordinator and let him know. Members are urged to be a facilitator of a trip. Note that a trip leader is a **facilitator of trips**. This involves selecting a site, and notifying the Field Trip Coordinator of the details of the trip. Remember to have participants complete the Nature Calgary waiver form.

Volunteer News and Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities: contact volunteers*@*naturecalgary.com for general inquiries; and Melanie Seneviratne (melaniesene*@*gmail.com or 403-815-1275) for the following:

Sat Oct 14: Fish Creek PP Fall Star Night. Nature Calgary has been invited to participate in Star Night at Fish Creek PP. Participants have the opportunity to utilize telescopes and view other displays and presentations. It is a great way to promote Nature Calgary! If you can assist at the Spring Star Night, please contact Melanie Seneviratne at melaniesene*@*gmail.com or 403-815-1275.

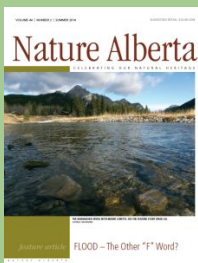
Nature Calgary Bird Study Group

Wed Sep 6: Canadian East Coast - Puffins and Gannets presented by Grace Jefferies. A 50-year love of photography, complemented by a Fine Arts minor in the subject, has fuelled Grace's love of seabirds. For the past six years, seabirds, puffins in particular, have been a favourite subject for study and photography. This interest has spawned two trips to the Shetland Islands in the UK, one trip to Iceland, and in summer 2016 - a trip to Canada's East Coast. In July 2016, Grace first headed to Grand Manan NB for puffins and then drove to Percé for gannets. Both proved to be a photographer's and birder's paradise.

Wed Oct 4: Rare and Notable Birds of Alberta – 2016 and 2017. A team of experienced birders, biologists and ornithologists recently formed a committee to gather rare and notable bird records seen in Alberta. These records contribute to the Prairie Province Region of the American Birding Association's North American Birds. North American Birds or NAB is a

For latest sightings, check **Albertabird**
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Albertabird>
BirdTrax
<https://sites.google.com/site/birdtrax/birdyyc/>

Rare Bird Alert:
Report rare bird reports to
Bird Alert Compiler,
Terry Korolyk at
403-300-1067
(New number Sep 2016)



Nature Calgary members can subscribe to Nature Alberta (quarterly magazine) for a reduced rate

quarterly publication whose mission is “to provide a complete overview of the changing panorama of North America's birdlife, including outstanding records, range extensions and contractions, population dynamics, and changes in migration patterns or seasonal occurrence.”

Join James Fox and Michael Sveen, NAB Alberta Compilers, and learn what rare, notable and exciting birds were reported in 2016 and 2017.

Bird Study Group: now meets the 1st Wednesday of the month (except January 2018 which will be the 2nd Wednesday), 7:30 pm, in Room 211, Biosciences Bldg, U of C. Contact, Andrew Hart 403-279-5209 or birdstudy*@*naturecalgary.com.

Nature Calgary Field Trips

Please contact Ian at fieldtrips*@*naturecalgary.com if you can suggest or lead a trip. You don't have to be an expert, just know of a good place to bird or botanize, and be willing to coordinate.

Thu Aug 31, 8:00am: Bird East of Calgary (destinations TBD). Meet at Carburn Park. From Glenmore Tr, go S at 18 SE to 2nd stoplight, turn right and follow signs to the park. Meet in the parking lot and bring lunch. Leader Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

Fri Sep 1, 7:30am: 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 leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Sat Sep 2, 9:15am: Bird East Fish Creek PP. See warblers, vireos, sparrows, raptors and more. Locations include the Visitor's Centre grounds, Hull's Wood, Burnsmead, Bankside, and Mallard Point. Meet at Fish Creek PP Visitor's Centre parking lot, 15979 Bow Bottom Trail SE. Leader Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878.

Sun Sep 3, 8:00am: Baker/Bowness Loop for migrants and other birds of interest. Meet at W end of Baker Park parking lot. From 85 St NW, turn W on N side of Bow River and follow signs to Baker Park. This walk will go counter-clockwise through Baker and Bowness Parks. Leader Dave Russum, 403-284-4775.

Sat Sep 9, 8:30am: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. Meet in the parking lot. The Sanctuary is located at 2425 – 9 Av SE. From Deerfoot Tr, take Blackfoot Tr westbound to exit to 19 St SE, turn left onto 9 Av SE and drive 1 km east. Turn right into the parking area. New birders and families welcome. Leader Janet Gill, 403-831-7828 or 403-230-5671.

Sat Sep 23, 9:30am: Bird Glenmore Reservoir & East of Calgary. Beginning at Glenmore Reservoir and traveling east of the city for migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, songbirds, raptors, gulls, and others. Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. Leader Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878.

Sun Sep 24, 9:30am: Bird East (or South) of Calgary. Meet at Carburn Park. From Glenmore Tr, go S at 18 St SE to 2nd stoplight, turn right and follow signs to the park. Meet in the parking lot and bring lunch. Expect to be back in the city by 4:30pm. Leader Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

Sat Sep 30, 9:00am: Bird North Glenmore Park. Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. Leader Penny Smith, 403-249-5997.



Field trips are free and open to all.

Highlighted trips require pre-registration.

Want to suggest or lead a trip? Contact Ian at fieldtrips*@*naturecalgary.com

New trips and updates:

<http://naturecalgary.com/field-trips/>. **Check often!**

NOTE: * in contact email addresses. Remove when sending email.



Coot with chick
©John Bargman

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Memberships

Individual \$20.00/yr.

Family \$25.00/yr.

Contact Val 403-288-7441 or
membership@naturecalgary.com

Join or renew online

<http://naturecalgary.com>

Nature Calgary publishes

Nature News 8 times per year.

Send copy to:

newsletter*@naturecalgary.com.

**Mailing address: Nature
Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M
Calgary, AB, T2P 2K4**

**Deadline for the next Nature
News issue is Oct 1, 2017.**

Sun Oct 1, 8:00am: 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 leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

General Interest

Discount for Nature Calgary members at Golden Acres Show your current membership card and receive a 15% discount at Golden Acre Home and Garden Centre, 620 Goddard Ave NE, Calgary.

“The Grizzly Truth” Screening: Sep 12 Presented by the Marda Loop Justice Film Festival, this documentary investigates arguments for and against British Columbia’s Grizzly Bear hunt. The free screening will include a conversation with filmmaker Tom Reissmann, and local conservation leaders, Kevin Van Tighem and Charlie Russell. 7:00 pm at River Park Church Auditorium (3818 – 14a St SW). For more information on the festival, please visit <http://www.justicefilmfestival.ca/justreel/>

Beautiful Bats: Sep 24 Presented by the Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation. Learn about the 9 species of bats Alberta is home to and what you can do to ensure their survival. \$15 for Members/\$20 for non-members. 1pm at the AIWC (NW of Airdrie) [For more information and to register.](#)

Nature Calgary Fall Banquet 2017

Join us Saturday, November 4

Lakeview Community Hall (6110 - 34 St SW)

Time: 6 - 7 pm: Social hour

7 pm: Three course buffet dinner (choice of prime rib or vegetarian selection)

8 pm: Guest speaker **Chic Scott** presents **“The Bow Valley, Our Home - Celebrating the communities of Lake Louise, Banff, Canmore, Exshaw and Morley”**

Our guest speaker, Chic Scott, will take us on a tour down the Bow valley celebrating the skiing, climbing, hiking, and marvelous history of these communities. Chic Scott is a household name in international and Canadian mountaineering circles. One of Canada’s most celebrated mountain literature authors and adventurers, he is the author of several award-winning mountaineering history books including “Pushing the Limits, the story of Canadian Mountaineering” which has won multiple awards. Chic Scott has been a devoted mountaineer for more than fifty years, has climbed and skied all over the world, organized clubs and foundations and worked as a mountain guide.

Price: \$50 for members/ \$60 for non-members

Payment methods: [Online](#) after Sep 2, in person at Nature Calgary General meetings or send cheques (payable to Nature Calgary) to:

Nature Calgary, PO Box 981, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2K4. Please write “banquet” on the envelope, include contact information and meal selection (beef or vegetarian).

Free parking & nature book exchange

If you are attending the banquet and can spare an hour before the event or a half hour following to help, please contact Melanie at melaniesene*@gmail.com or Penny Smith, 403-249-5997.