



## The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

### Francis R. Cook - 2010 Member of the Year

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The OFNC Member of the Year Award recognizes the member judged to have contributed the most to the club in the previous year. Francis Cook is the 2010 Member of the Year for his exceptional effort to bring *The Canadian Field-Naturalist (CFN)* up to date.

Francis Cook was editor of the *CFN* from 1962 to 1967 and served as an associate editor (herpetology) for several years thereafter. In 1981, he returned as editor of the *CFN*. During this past 30-year span he has maintained the *CFN* as the most scientifically important and visible aspect of the club. This has been marked by his receiving during this period three external awards for his and the journal's excellence.

It is, however, for his recent effort to bring the *CFN* back on schedule that Francis Cook is being recognized as Member of the Year for 2010. For various reasons, during recent years the publication schedule slipped badly. Looking ahead to retirement with the completion of the 2010 volume 124, and with the intention of the OFNC to begin an online edition of the *CFN* in 2011 under a new editor, Francis undertook the demanding task of completing the outstanding issues.

This meant producing seven issues within about 10 months. Volume 123(2) appeared in November 2010 (the fourth issue to be published in 2010), from which he determined that he could expedite matters by preparing the remaining six simultaneously rather than sequentially. Of these, volume 123(3) appeared in February 2011 and Volume 123(4) in mid-March; the remaining four issues are targeted to appear this spring. This constitutes a production level never attempted before, let alone achieved in the 130-year history of the journal.

For these reasons, and in recognition of these unique achievements, it is our pleasure to present Francis Cook with the Member of the Year Award for 2010.

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