



The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

2016 Member of the Year: Gordon Robertson

The OFNC's Member of the Year award recognizes the member judged to have contributed the most to the Club in the previous year.

We are recognizing Gordon Robertson as Member of the Year for his enthusiastic and willing support of a number of Club activities in 2016. In 2016, Gordon took on the duties of Chair of the Education and Publicity Committee. He also undertook a number of activities on behalf of the committee. He has been extremely generous in response to requests to the OFNC from community groups for a nature talk or nature walk. These requests come in via the Club's website which invites people to email their request to education@ofnc.ca, which is directed to Gordon.

Gordon created slideshows on various topics: migratory birds, waterbirds, butterflies, the monarch butterfly, and there are others. He delivered two workshops at the Fletcher Wildlife Garden (FWG) - one was for University of Ottawa education students and the other was for U of O teacher candidates. He gave nature talks to two grade 7 classes at St. Francis Xavier High School. As well he co-staffed the OFNC display at several venues including Bug Day 2016 and at the Canadian Museum of Nature's NatureScene symposium.

Gordon led a number of nature walks, which when the walk was for kids became a scavenger hunt. He led a nature walk through McCarthy Woods for the Riverside Park Community and Recreation Association, a nature walk co-led by Jakob Mueller for Friends of Petrie Island, a nature activity for a Mini Wheats camp (kids) at Watson's Mill, a nature walk for Girl Guides and Scouts in Winchester, and nature outings at the FWG for each of Brownies, Beavers, and homeschoolers.

Gordon also played an active role at the FWG, participating on the Management Committee, helping the Friday morning work crew, co-maintaining the bird feeders, maintaining the computer, and helping with many other tasks as needed. Over the past year, Gordon developed several posters for the FWG outdoor bulletin boards, and he is leading the creation of seasonal interpretive panels (storyboards) to be displayed at several locations in FWG.

Gordon also monitors the Club's Facebook posts fairly regularly and serves as liaison between the Facebook Group's administrators and the OFNC Board of Directors.

He attended the fall meeting of the Ontario Nature Eastern Region Network held at the Quinte Conservation Area and will be the OFNC's representative on this network.

It is for his enthusiastic contributions to many Club activities that we are recognizing Gordon Robertson with the Member of the Year Award for 2016.

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This page was created 15 March 2017

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