

2023 George McGee Service Award: Elizabeth Moore

In recognition of a member who has contributed significantly to the smooth running of the Club over several years.



Elizabeth Moore has been a member of the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club for close to 15 years during which time her expertise, energy and enthusiasm have helped keep the Club running smoothly. Elizabeth has served as Recording Secretary since 2019, keeping track of the goings on at Board meetings, dealing with correspondence and writing up the minutes. This somewhat unglamorous but absolutely essential job is expertly done by Elizabeth, with minutes that are always very thorough and accurate, as well as on schedule. She takes the time to check on details or seek clarification on certain points so that there are rarely changes to be made in the minutes as presented at each meeting. Having someone doing the minutes both reliably and well is an incredible asset to the Club.

Elizabeth was also recording secretary on the Fletcher Wildlife Garden Committee from 2016 until 2018. At the Garden, she did much more than just take notes. From 2010 to 2016, she enthusiastically participated as a volunteer working to improve the butterfly meadow, planting flowers, pulling dog-strangling vine, weeding, sifting soil and performing many other gardening tasks. She also got her daughter, Sarah, (a teenager at the time) to join in the work. Elizabeth also helped with the pond project (again with Sarah), weeding the path along the pond and planting.



Elizabeth has been particularly active in the Events Committee, doing all the arrangements for the annual Awards Night for five years, 2016 through 2020, pausing only when the COVID pandemic made it necessary to switch to Zoom events for 2021 and 2022. This important job involves renting the room, setting it up (including tables, chairs, the screen, etc.), getting a sound system, arranging for food preparation and kitchen cleanup, getting someone to manage the auction and someone to run the photo contest, finding people to serve the wine who are certified with Smart Serve Ontario, and



finding a suitable MC. Elizabeth either enlisted people to do the various jobs or did the work herself. She also ensured Awards Night was promoted and advertised in advance.



Elizabeth has also taken charge of preparing, dispensing and collecting name tags at monthly meetings and has done so for many years. This involves keeping the name tags up-to-date after annual elections and new committee affiliations and, of course, obliges her to be at every meeting or find a replacement.

All those working with Elizabeth attest to her being self-reliant and competent as well as being funny and agreeable, quick to say 'yes' whenever she is asked for help. These are all attributes of selfless volunteers that make an organization like the OFNC function, and function smoothly. For her years of service, Elizabeth is much deserving of the 2023 George McGee Service Award.

