

Nature Group Annual Report 2013-14 Season

The Nature Group continues with a program of outings to places of interest to nature photographers within a 100 km radius of Parliament hill. In addition we had two three-day outings to Algonquin Park which were well attended by 13 and 7 members respectively. The first was a fall outing where most members camped & some persons used hotels. The second is a canoe trip in the spring to shoot Moose on Hailstorm Creek in the north west of Opeongo Lake.

We deliberately do not hold outings during December and August because of the low level of member participation and interest. During the other months we have at least one outing and in the spring months and fall season we often hold two outings per month. This ensures a minimum of 12 outings per year.

During these outings we share information and photographic skill and techniques for shooting in a natural environment. These exchanges of knowledge and information often occur when we share a meal in a restaurant or on a log somewhere in the woods. How to cope with cold weather photography and also wet weather are regular topics of interest to new members. Night photography of stars and other astronomical phenomenon of interest like eclipses of the moon are special events we try to include in our program when they occur. This winter we organized an outing hunting for Snowy Owls which appeared in the greatest numbers in forty years in the Ottawa area.

The group activities are planned, coordinated and led by five persons: Pierre Gauthier, Paul Bertelmann, Rob Fillion, Jayni & Gerald Bloch. Each person assumes the responsibility for planning and leading two to three outings per year.

We thank Jayni & Gerald Bloch for their contribution over the last three years. They will not be able to continue with us next year and we invite other members to take up the challenge of helping us out for next season.

Pierre R Gauthier

RAPC, Nature Group Leader