

## President's Report to the GN AGM March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017

In my humble opinion, it has been a very good year for GN and your Board. We asked you last year to give us suggestions as to how we can improve things and get our profile raised. We received some very good feedback but what came through loud and clear was the need for better communication to the membership. To this end, we are attempting to get all events/happenings on general e-mails, Facebook, the website and the Chronicle as early as possible. We hope this has been successful and you are kept updated.

Looking back, there has been a lot accomplished over the year and when you read the online Committee reports you will see we have a very dedicated number of members who have served you this year. Thank you to all the Committee Chairs and their members.

Without going into any detail, here is a list of some of the programs and events we did and are doing this year: Field Trips, Birding Trails, Bird Tales, Ranchlands Project, Bird Counts, Shoreline Cleanup, UERAB Presentation, Webcam Project, Wildflower Brochure, Butterfly Project, displays at various Forums-SEAWA, World Water Week, etc; and the big one, the upgrade and renovations to the Nature Centre, which we hope to see start this June. John's Issues Committee report will give you more information.

We are fortunate to have the MHIP which continues to present excellent and well-attended programs. Thanks to Corlaine and staff for your outstanding dedication! And don't forget to **Volunteer** when asked and needed.

Our indoor speaker program has been varied and all of them have been interesting. Thanks to Dave for this. Also, a big thank you to Betty who manages to make sense of the various subjects and gets it to Milt by the Chronicle deadline date.

Remember, the strength of a club is its members and the ability to attract new members. We have a relatively stable membership and have added some new members over the past two or three years. I think we have been able to keep this year's club events and happenings interesting for the membership but we always want to hear from you if you have new ideas that may fit our mandate.

The Board is there to serve the membership, so if you are not happy about the direction or content please let any one of us know, either by a phone call, e-mail or text. Or better yet, come to a general meeting and tell us.

I want to thank my Board for their hard work and dedication over the year. We have not always agreed on every decision and some meetings have gone overtime, but everyone works for the same goal and that is, the good of the Society.

Respectfully submitted,

Hugh Armstrong, President