

21 (2-4) December / decembre 1994

N. B. Naturalist

Le Naturaliste du N.-B.



From the Editors

Our Swan Song

Dear members, since this is our last issue as co-editors of the *N.B. Naturalist*, I would like to share with you some of the joys and frustrations of the past ten years. I also would like to highlight some of the history of the magazine.

Years before our federation was formed, there was a newsletter (that came out more regularly than ours) called *Nature News*. Written by Dr. Austin Squires and produced by the natural science department of the New Brunswick Museum, it was a modest publication, but kept naturalists throughout the province informed about our fauna, flora and other natural phenomena from 1950-68.

In 1969, the museum combined its three separate bulletins (history, art and natural science) into a magazine called *Museum Memo*. That same year Dr. Squires retired and David Christie, a former president of the Saint John Naturalists' Club and park naturalist at Fundy National Park, took over his position.

To fill the void left by the demise of *Nature News*, David obtained approval to start the *N.B. Naturalist* as a museum publication available on a subscription basis. That is how the *N.B. Naturalist* began. The year was 1970, and the contents were what is now the "Nature News" portion.

The New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists was still almost three years away, but the magazine was preparing the ground by providing a means of communication among a growing number of naturalists in the province. In 1973, with formation of the Federation, the *N.B. Naturalist* became its official publication. David continued as editor and contributions came from many members.

Over the years, the magazine has had its ups and downs—understandable when it frequently relied mainly on volunteers. The New Brunswick Museum assisted to varying degrees at different times, by authorizing staff to edit it, to type the masters, to print it on a duplicator, by buying extra copies for its own distribution, or for a time by a small grant. As times got tough all help ceased.

I joined David as co-editor in 1975. Although in the beginning I did only menial jobs, eventually I got the hang of it and could contribute to many aspects of producing the magazine. Barry King took over from us as editor in 1979 and Gayl Hipperson (of the museum's science department) in 1983. Under her direction the magazine became *N.B. Naturalist / Le Naturaliste du N.-B.* Gayl improved the quality significantly but in mid 1985 she left the province. Production fell once again on David's and my shoulders, ending with the issue you are holding in your hands, ten years later.

David had left the museum in 1980, so we did our work on our home computer at Mary's Point. The ten years were filled with much joy but also frustration. The joy was in producing something from scratch—especially at those times when we were

happy with the results. Our frustrations were of various kinds. It makes you climb the walls when after labouring for many days you give the magazine to a printer who keeps it on the shelf for weeks, or when the post office delays sending it out for days and days.

Eventually, we located a printer and post office which provided better service. We were able to modernize our production techniques using laser printers, photocopiers and scanners. At first we made our pilgrimages to the city to use commercial machines, but eventually acquired our own equipment and became more efficient.

Alas, the editorship and other activities sometimes conflicted. We assumed additional responsibilities including stewardship of the Mary's Point shorebird reserve. Besides everything else, we feel that change is a good thing—for the magazine and for us. The magazine can take new and different directions, and we will have time to work on some of our other ideas. For the time being, we remain part of the editorial committee but will play a much smaller part in its production. It won't be "our baby" anymore.

We will miss the special feeling one experiences when the magazines arrive from the printer and one holds the final product in one's hands. From now on, that proud moment will be shared by others and I am sure will be enjoyed by all of you, the readers.

This, our swan song, does not carry much of a tune. Still we would like to sing a song of thanks to all those who have helped us throughout the years, the writers and illustrators, the people who addressed envelopes or collated the magazine by hand (Yes, those were the days!), and finally my patient husband Mike who lived through many of the upheavals connected with our work.

Mary Majka, retiring co-editor

New Editorial Team

To carry on production of the magazine:

Irene Doyle (Campbellton) will collect articles, illustrations, and announcements from members and clubs. Jim Goltz (Fredericton) will assist with soliciting articles. Diane Allain (Fredericton) will look after additional illustrations.

Editing of English articles will be shared by Jim Goltz, Bruce Bagnell (Gardner Creek), Rob Walker (Alma), Mary Majka and David Christie. Hilaire and Rose-Aline Chiasson (Lamèque) will continue editing French articles, assisted by Diane Allain.

There will be alternating production teams, with Diane Allain and Jim Goltz preparing two issues a year, and Rob Walker, Gert Bishop (Sussex), Mary Majka and David Christie doing the other two. Gert Bishop will look after printing and mailing.

Anybody who is interested in helping out or contributing articles please contact Irene Doyle, P.O. Box 591, Campbellton, N.B. E3N 3G9; telephone 506-789-0107.

Figaro, le Faucon pèlerin

Pénélope Cormier¹



Bonjour, je suis Pénélope Cormier et je voudrais aujourd'hui vous parler d'un bon ami à moi que j'ai rencontré au Parc Fundy. Il a fait le sujet de ma rédaction lors du concours du Cercle Saint-François. J'ai donc décidé de rendre l'utile à l'agréable et de vous le présenter.

La dernière fois que je l'ai vu, il m'a laissé cette plume en guise d'amitié.

Il s'appelle Figaro à Pétraque à Faucon Pèlerin, et voici ce qu'il m'a dit:

«Mon père, feu Pétraque Pèlerin me racontait que son père Faucon Pèlerin lui avait raconté comment vivait la belle et grande famille de Faucon Pèlerin, il y a longtemps, sur les falaises de la baie de Fundy. Ses descendants étaient nombreux!!

Les temps ont bien changé depuis. Ça fait toute la journée que je vole, et je n'ai pas vu un seul autre faucon.

Mais... voilà que j'aperçois une tourterelle qui ferait un bon souper pour ma femme et moi! Je descends en piqué pour surprendre ma proie. Ouf! je dois bien atteindre les 200 à 230 kilomètres heure, peut-être même plus!! Le tour est joué, la tourterelle est assommée par mon plongeon.

Je me dirige vers la corniche de la falaise qui abrite ma famille. J'y retrouve ma femme, Maki, qui n'a pas l'air dans son assiette. Elle n'a pas besoin de me faire un dessin. Un regard vers nos oeufs me suffit pour constater que le malheur n'a pas épargné notre famille. Nous n'avions couvé les oeufs que pendant quinze jours. C'était nettement insuffisant. Il aurait fallu le double de ce temps, mais voilà que nos bébés voulaient déjà sortir de leur coquille.

Les pesticides agricoles dont se servent les humains pour leurs champs de blé allaient détruire ma

famille. Ces produits chimiques ont eu pour effet de déséquilibrer toute la chaîne alimentaire. La famille Pèlerin n'allait pas dans ces champs. Malheureusement, nos proies ne se gênaient pas pour aller goûter au blé empoisonné.

Les faucons pèlerins se sont alors retrouvés dans une situation très critique. Ils faisaient face à l'extinction.

Heureusement que nous comptons parmi les humains, de bons amis qui n'ont pas hésité à venir à notre rescousse. Devant la crainte de la disparition complète du faucon pèlerin, nos amis, au nombre toujours croissant, ont réussi à faire interdire en Amérique du Nord, l'utilisation de certains pesticides néfastes à notre famille. Ils font même l'élevage de jeunes faucons pèlerins qu'ils relâcheront à maturité, afin d'assurer la survie de l'espèce.

Tout n'est pas perdu! J'aurai peut-être la chance de raconter cette histoire dramatique à mes enfants pour qu'ils la racontent à leurs enfants.»

Maintenant, afin de vous familiariser davantage sur le faucon pèlerin, j'ai rassemblé ces quelques informations supplémentaires:

- Le faucon pèlerin est environ de la taille d'une corneille.
- La femelle est légèrement plus grosse que le mâle (un tiers environ).
- En vol, il peut dépasser 350 kilomètres heure.
- Il ne fait habituellement pas de nid, mais préfère les escarpements.
- Il se nourrit presque exclusivement d'oiseaux.
- Le mâle et la femelle se partagent l'incubation des 2 ou 3 oeufs pour environ 32 jours avant l'éclosion.

Monsieur Duguay a fait quelques recherches et a pu nous apporter ceci. Je crois bien qu'il s'agit là de Monsieur Faucon Pèlerin, l'ancêtre de mon ami Figaro.



D.C.

¹ 8ième année, École Vanier, Moncton.

Bird Study Awards for Young Ornithologists

The Doug Tarry Bird Study Awards promote development of ornithological interests in Canadian teenagers, aged 13-18. Recipients attend a week-long workshop at Long Point Bird Observatory, on the shore of Lake Erie—July 2-9, 1995. Awards cover all direct costs during the workshop, but recipients are responsible for their own travel to Long Point. Applications from contact Rosie Kirton, LPBO, Box 160, Port Rowan, ONT N0E 1M0; fax 519-586-3532. Applications are due May 1, 1995.

Centre for Research in Sustainable Development and the Environment at UNB

A new multidisciplinary centre on sustainable development and the environment is being established at the University of New Brunswick with funding from New Brunswick's Environmental Trust Fund. Many UNB departments already offer courses and undertake research in various environmental areas. The new centre will provide a focal point for inquiries from outside the university and for coordination of internal efforts. [UNB Alumni News, spring 1994.]

I Found a Piping Plover

Daniel Gautreau¹

It was a dreary June morning when nothing seemed to go right. I was at my grandfather's ocean view house for the rest of the month. It was kind of boring there because no kids my age lived there. I was thinking of how I was going to spend the rest of the day, when I happened to look down. The rock I saw looked like a bird and I bent down to pick it up. When I looked at it closer, I discovered that it was a bird!!! I started running back to the house when I heard it chirp. I couldn't believe it was alive. I expected it to fly away. Instead it jumped on the ground and flapped its wing. Right then I knew one of its wings was broken. I brought it in the house and told my grandfather what happened. We got in his car and drove to the veterinarian.

When we went in, the vet was surprised because the bird I had was a Piping Plover. She told me there are only a few of these birds left and that they are an endangered species.

After she fixed up its wing she told us she didn't have enough room to keep it there. She let us keep it if we learned how to take care of it. We went back to the house and made a pen for the bird. After this we went to the library to find information.

I learned that the Piping Plover eats insects and small aquatic animals. We took several books out, then went to the beach to search for food for the bird. In one of the books I read, it talked about how important public information is. This information warns people to be careful and not disturb nesting sites.

After a few weeks we took it to vet and she said we could let it go. When we were back at the house I let it go. It flew up and circled over us a few times, then flew off. It was fun learning about the Piping Plover.



Dots showing Piping Plover nesting sites in New Brunswick.

¹ Grade 6, New Maryland Elementary School. Written for the 35th anniversary essay contest of The Kindness Club.

Of Mud, Shrimps and Man

To those of us who are involved in the welfare of shorebirds the message was very disturbing. "*Corophium* is in trouble." *Corophium volutator* is the tiny crustacean commonly known as mud shrimp and the major food source for migratory shorebirds in the upper Bay of Fundy.

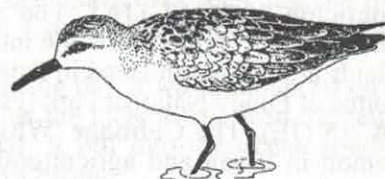
The news came as a result of investigations done for the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS). In 1993 two German students were studying shorebirds on the mudflats at Johnson Mills on Shepody Bay. Their findings, compared with those of a CWS scientist in 1977, indicated that there many fewer mud shrimps now. Our concern was "what will the birds do if there is not enough food for them to eat." To fuel their non-stop journey of 4000 km to South America they need a large supply of fat and most of it is provided by *Corophium*.

Fortunately, things did not turn out to be as bleak as they at first appeared. Last summer two post-graduate students working for CWS indeed discovered a significant decline of mud shrimp at Johnson Mills and at Pecks Cove on Cumberland Basin. Numbers dropped less markedly at Starrs Pt. sandbar in Minas Basin. But other areas of the bay, including Mary's Point, had increased numbers of mud shrimp.



So what may have caused the problems in those three places? Peter Hicklin, a scientist with CWS does not yet have an answer. He speculates that because Starrs Pt. has been tremendously disturbed by commercial bait harvesters, who literally plow through the mud looking for large polychaete worms, a prize bait for deep sea fishermen, few mud shrimp could survive. And how about the Pecks Cove and Johnson Mills mudflats? The mudflat sediments were found to be much more soupy (water content up from 19% to 34.5%) at these locations. Here again, says Hicklin, it might be a man-made problem. The causeways on the Petitcodiac, Memramcook and other rivers have created tremendous changes in the way mud, silt and sand are deposited in the upper bay.

The troublesome thought remains. Are *Corophium*, the mainstay of shorebirds, safe from future problems brought about by humans? — MM



H.S.

Butterflies and Moths

Annual Roundup: April-November 1994

Jim Edsall

The spring, summer and fall of 1994 were unusually warm and dry. These conditions led to a banner year for butterflies and moths in New Brunswick. The increasing interest in butterflies by local birders and naturalists, and research projects by professional entomologists within the province helped contribute to the long list of species in this report.

The **Tiger Swallowtail** enjoyed a fabulous year throughout the province from early May to late July and was reported in enormous numbers. It could be found "mud-puddling" by the hundreds along dirt roads and most observers agreed that they had never seen so many. **Black Swallowtails** also were common in the southeast. Larva on parsley and carrots in Moncton were observed from May 27 until Sept. 24 (JE).

The **Monarch Butterfly** was observed on Grand Manan Island (GMI) in late May (JE). It was reported frequently at Mary's Point for a couple of weeks in late July and at Southwest Head as late as Sept. 25 (DSC). It has only been known to breed in New Brunswick in recent years so observations of mating pairs in Fredericton and at Mactaquac in July (TT) and Aug (DG) were interesting as was the discovery of larvae and pupae on Orange Milkweed at North Head, GMI, by the Normandeau's. Adults were common on GMI throughout the fall.

Pearly Eyes were observed at Hall's Creek Marsh in Moncton on July 8 (ST, JE). **Wood Nymphs** were observed at HCM on July 22 (JE) and were very common at North Head in August and Sept.

The **Inornate Ringlet** was flying at HCM on June 18 (JE) and at Mary's Point on July 1 (DSC). An unusual second hatch took place in August with individuals reported at North Head on Aug. 23 and Grand Harbour Aug. 24 (JE). The indigenous **Maritime Ringlet** was reported scarce in early August (TT, JG) in its marsh habitat near Bathurst. This species is under serious pressure from housing development and will probably be placed on the endangered species list. Dr. Reg Webster of Fredericton is currently working on a project that would see them introduced into suitable marshland in other areas of the province.

The **Common Sulfur** lived up to its name this summer, building in number from late May until it was our most abundant species in Aug.-Sept. It was still observed on the wing at Mactaquac on the very late date of Nov. 20 (DG). It was also late at Fredericton Nov. 17 (JA). The **Orange Sulfur**, normally less common, was the most common sulfur in fields around North Head in Aug.-Sept. It was also reported at Fundy National Park (FNP) on July 19 and Sept. 15 (JE). The **Cabbage White** was, as usual, common in urban and agricultural areas. **Mustard Whites** were observed at Hillsborough in late May

(ST) and at Turtle Creek on May 30 (JE).

The **Great Spangled Fritillary** was common at HCM from July 15 to Sept. 3 (JE). **Atlantis Fritillary** was even more common and flew well into Sept. with one observed on GMI on Sept. 20 (JE). The **Aphrodite** is seldom reported but one was at HCM on Aug. 5 (JE). The **Silver Bordered Fritillary** was seen at HCM in late May (JE) and reported on July 4 in Albert Co. (CM). A colony of **Lesser Purple Fritillaries** was discovered near Tabusintac the first week in August (TT, JG). The **Pearl Crescent** was very common throughout the province in June-July. A very unusual second brood was observed with individuals at the Whistle, GMI, on Aug 27 (JE) and at HCM on Sept. 6 (JE). **Harris' Checkerspot** was common from June 24 to July 28 at HCM, Salisbury, FNP and other locations in Albert Co. The highly local **Baltimore** was at HCM from June 24 until July 29 (JE) and a colony of caterpillars was found on Turtlehead on Aug 29.

The **Question Mark** was found at HCM on June 24 (JE) and Shepody July 15 (DSC). It was common on Grand Manan in August (JE) and October (DSC). The **Comma** was fairly common at HCM from April 8 to May 14 and again in Aug.-Sept. (JE). The **Gray Comma** was at HCM on Apr. 22 and again in Aug.-Sept. (JE). The **Green Comma** was observed at HCM on July 25 and in August (JE). It was common through August at FNP (TT).

As usual the **Mourning Cloak** was one of the first butterflies of the spring with several observed at HCM on Apr. 5 (JE, ST) and one at Crystal Beach the same day (AG). They flew throughout the summer with a short break in early July. The latest individual was seen Nov. 12 at North Head (SJNC). **Milbert's Tortoiseshell** was first reported on April 3 in Moncton at the Bell Marsh (ST). Others were observed in Moncton Sept. 4 (JE) and at Sugar Island in Sept. (DG) with a very late one Nov. 12 in Fredericton (SS). **Compton's Tortoiseshell** is rare in the southern part of the province so three reports were interesting. One was at the Anchorage, GMI on Aug. 25 (JE) and two were observed near Wolfe Lake, FNP in Aug and Sept. (TT).

The **Red Admiral** didn't enjoy the great season most species did but was noted in late June at HCM and a few were on GMI in Aug.-Sept. (JE). One was at FNP Oct. 15 (DSC) and another on GMI Oct. 19 (DSC). The **Painted Lady** was almost absent this year. Both these species are dependent on spring migrants to replenish their populations so obviously only a few were able to reach New Brunswick this year. On the other hand the **American Painted Lady** was very common in late Aug.-Oct. Over one hundred individuals were on GMI on Oct. 8 (ST) and a few individuals were still on the wing into November.

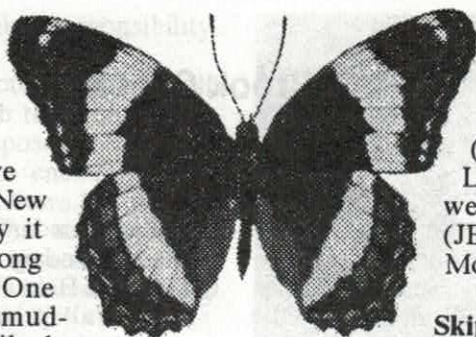
Often these very late specimens are miniaturized in stature. Larvae were observed on Pearly Everlasting at North Head on Aug. 26.

The **White Admiral** may have been the most abundant species in New Brunswick this year. In late July it could be seen by the thousands along dirt roads in the southeast. One accumulation of butterflies "mud-puddling" near Alma was described as occupying an area as large as a car (CC). They also had a massive second brood in August and possibly a third or extended second brood in September. One was remarkably late on GMI on Oct. 8 (ST). The **Viceroy** was common at HCM and Mary's Point from June to Sept. and was also common at North Head in late August (JE, DSC, CM).

The **Spring Azure** started to fly in mid-May and a few were still flying in July. As sometimes happens in long warm summers, a second brood was observed with several individuals seen on GMI on Aug. 24 (JE) and at least one in Fredericton in Sept. (TT). **Silvery Blues** were common at HCM in May-July. An individual was also reported at Castalia Marsh, GMI, on May 23 (JE). One **Striped Hairstreak** was reported at Moncton on July 25 (JE) and another at Islandview, York Co., July 28 (JE).

The **American Copper** was common on Grand Manan in Aug.-Sept. One was observed Sept. 26 at White Head Is. (MM). One **Bog Copper** was at the Caribou Plain, FNP, on July 29 (JE, DJC). The **Salt Marsh Copper**, one of our endemic species, appears to be increasing its range in the southeast. Formerly known only from the Acadian Peninsula, it was discovered at Cape Jourimain in August 1992 (ST) at Cap Bimet in August 1993 (ST, JE) and was observed at Parlee Beach on Aug. 12, 1994 (JE).

The **Harvester**, once considered rare in New Brunswick, is being reported more frequently. A small



colony was located at HCM and individuals were flying from May 10 to July 5. Other colonies were located at Turtle Creek on May 28 (JE), Cole's Island July 17 (JE) and Lincoln June 22 (JE). Individuals were also observed at Alma June 10 (JE, DJC) and on Main Street in Moncton on Aug. 26.

Skippers

Dreamy Dusky Wing Hall's Creek Marsh, May 10-July 21 (JE); Albert Co., July 4 (CM).
Northern Cloudy Wing Boiestown, June 12 (JE)
Arctic Skipper HCM May 20-July 15 (JE)
Least Skipper HCM July 1 (ST, JE)
European Skipper HCM July 8-Aug 7 (JE); Albert Co., July 4 (CM)
Hobomok Skipper HCM May 9-July 18 (JE)
Peck's Skipper Moncton June 10 (JE); Albert Co. July 4 (CM)
Long Dash HCM June 24-Aug. 4 (JE)
Tawny Edge HCM July 17 (JE); Albert Co. July 4 (CM)
Laurentian Skipper FNP Aug (TT); HCM Aug. 7-29; GMI Aug. 20-27 (JE)
Dun Skipper HCM July 1 (JE, ST)
Pepper and Salt Skipper HCM May 16-July 9 (JE)

Moths

Luna Moth Hastings Hill, FNP June (TT); Wolfe Lake, FNP July 8 (DJC)

Abbreviations

	HCM	Hall's Creek Marsh, Moncton
AG	Allen Gorham	JA
CC	Connie Colpitts	JE
CM	Chris Majka	JG
DSC	David Christie	MM
DG	Don Gibson	SS
DJC	David Clark	ST
FNP	Fundy Nat'l Park	TT
GMI	Grand Manan Island	
		Janice Arndt
		Jim Edsall
		Jim Goltz
		Mary Majka
		Shirley Sloat
		Stu Tingley
		Tony Thomas

Spectacular Fireball

A spectacular fireball streaked across New Brunswick skies on the evening of Nov. 29. One of many amazed viewers was NBFN vice-president Rob Walker, who works in Fundy National Park. Rob was travelling south-southwest on Route 114 towards Alma. Here's how he described his experience:

"The sky was clear with stars visible but no moon in sight. A fireball appeared in the sky directly in front of me. It was large enough that I could clearly discern the length and width of an ovoid shape... descending at a steep angle. It was a pale yellow colour and had a vapour trail of the same colour streaming out behind it. The 'tail flickered off gases like a flame. I believe that I saw a pale green colour in

these gaseous flickers. The tail was about 12 times the length of the object.

"This meteor illuminated the sky around it but not to a striking degree. (It could not be compared to the light of a full moon or a lightning flash.) I observed it for about two seconds. It disappeared behind a forested hillside. I was amazed at its size and wondered if it might be a piece of space junk. It was larger than any object I have ever seen descend from the sky, and I am a devoted meteor shower watcher."

The following day it was announced on the radio that the meteor had been tracked by radar. It fell into the ocean south of Nova Scotia.

Natural Areas

Falls Brook Center

Grant Milroy



Long ago, "skedaddlers" escaping the American Civil War draft found their way to a lonely ridge in northeastern Carleton County. Today, nestled below Skedaddle Ridge lies the Falls Brook Center. Devoted to a philosophy of sustainable development the center provides a wonderful place for anyone who simply enjoys nature and is looking for beautiful walking trails. Visitors are welcome anytime.

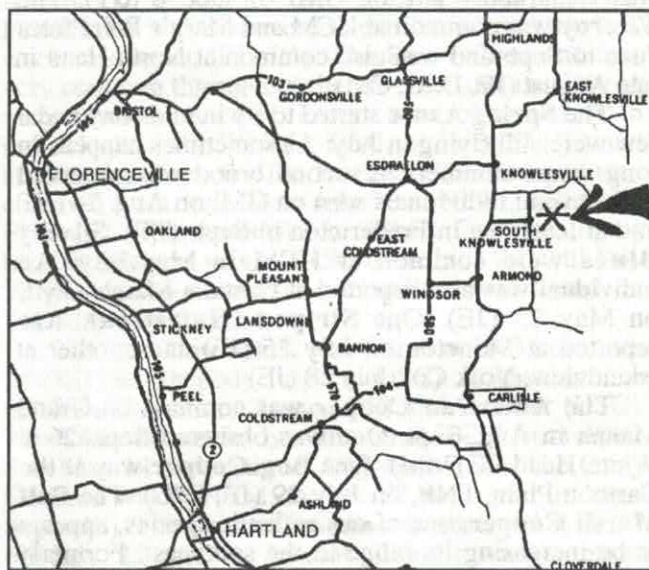
They will be treated to 10 km of excellent trails in the solitude of the Acadian Forest. The highest beaver dam I've ever seen, forest brooks, the bowl and Skedaddle Ridge with a viewing platform into the neighbouring valley are some of the highlights provided by these trails. A trail guide and interpretive signs enable the nature amateur to stop, look, listen and learn.

Jean Arnold has shepherded the Center into becoming a place of training for those concerned about global environmental issues. It also sponsors an Environmental Fair each fall. They network with similar centers in the third world and seek to embrace native wisdom with basic conservation concepts and techniques.

Finding Falls Brook Center will take you off the Trans-Canada and out through New Brunswick's hills and valleys, farms and forest. Approximately 25 km from Hartland's longest covered bridge in the world and 40 km from Muniac Provincial Park on the east bank of the Saint John River, a trip to the Center

offers an abundance of great birding spots, waterfalls, not so abundant old growth cedar swamps, and Osprey and Bald Eagle nests.

The Valley Naturalists in Florenceville can help anyone looking for these out of the way treats. Call 375-6371, or the Falls Brook Center at 375-8143. "Skedaddling" can be fun. God bless.



The Value Of Protected Natural Areas — A Naturalist's Perspective¹

James Goltz

New Brunswick's naturalists are keen to have a comprehensive system of protected natural areas in place. The spectrum of protected areas should include:

- habitat for endangered, rare or threatened species of wildlife (both plants and animals);
- threatened distinctive natural habitats (e.g. salt marshes, old-growth forests, waterways);
- areas representative of each major ecosystem type in each natural region of the province;
- distinctive or unusual landscapes or ecosystems, such as areas with a high species, habitat or ecosystem diversity;
- natural areas with aesthetic, cultural, social or heritage values (e.g. waterfalls, watercourses, scenic vistas);
- areas that link and/or buffer critical natural areas, or whose ecological functions affect surrounding natural systems; and

- areas which are large enough to provide habitat for species with a wide home range.

It is extremely difficult to put a monetary figure on the economic benefits of preserving and protecting natural areas. Because of this, it is often implied that protection is much less important than resource extraction. This has resulted in a perceived conflict of values, namely economics versus the environment. Fortunately it is becoming widely acknowledged and recognized that a sound economy based on natural resources is dependent upon a healthy environment. Further, protected natural areas are a key element for the sustainability of renewable natural resources and the economy.

The best reason for protecting natural areas should be because landforms, ecosystems, habitats and wildlife (both plants and animals) exist, and have the

right to exist. It is our moral and ethical responsibility to facilitate their continued survival.

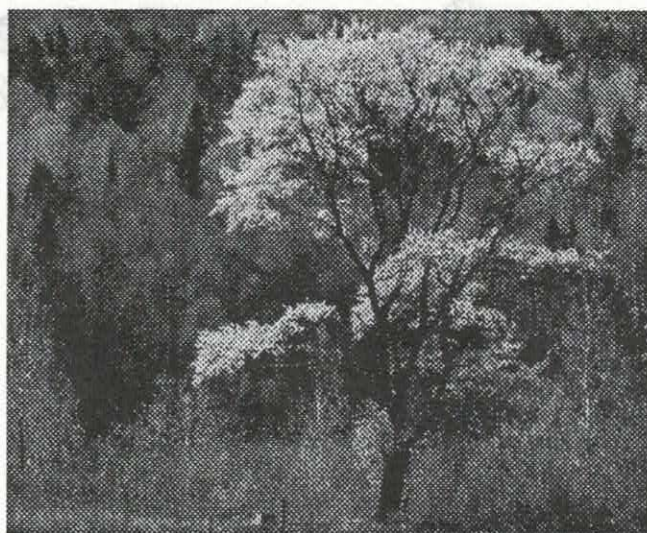
The values associated with protected areas will differ somewhat for areas in which there should be limited or no human access, as opposed to those in which access is permitted or even encouraged. A discussion of some of these values follows below:

Moral and Ethical Values — For many people there is peace of mind in knowing that protected areas exist. There is a real fear, especially among young people, that natural areas and their wildlife inhabitants are in peril and could be lost within a very short period of time.

Spiritual Values — Nature is an integral part of our spirituality. How can one put a monetary value on the experience of seeing a beautiful waterfall, feeling a cool summer breeze, smelling a fragrant wild flower.

Recreational Values — Pursuit of the "wilderness" experience is a major recreational activity of New Brunswickers and other Canadians. Considerable revenue and employment are generated by people who turn to nature for recreation. To fully enjoy and experience nature one needs appropriate clothing, footwear, camping supplies, outdoor gear, modes of transportation, books, optical equipment, etc. Many people are willing to spend considerable amounts of money on transportation, accommodation, food and tour guides to achieve the ultimate nature experience. For example, in the winter of 1991, birders from all over North America came to Caraquet, New Brunswick, to see a Fieldfare, a species of thrush native to Europe and Asia.

Health Values — Outdoor activities in natural settings constitute the major type of physical exercise for many people. Not only do natural areas provide sources of oxygen production, environmental detoxification and fresh water supply, but the maintenance of gene pools and biodiversity in these areas will likely benefit humans and help to ensure our survival by providing new sources of food and medicine in years to come.



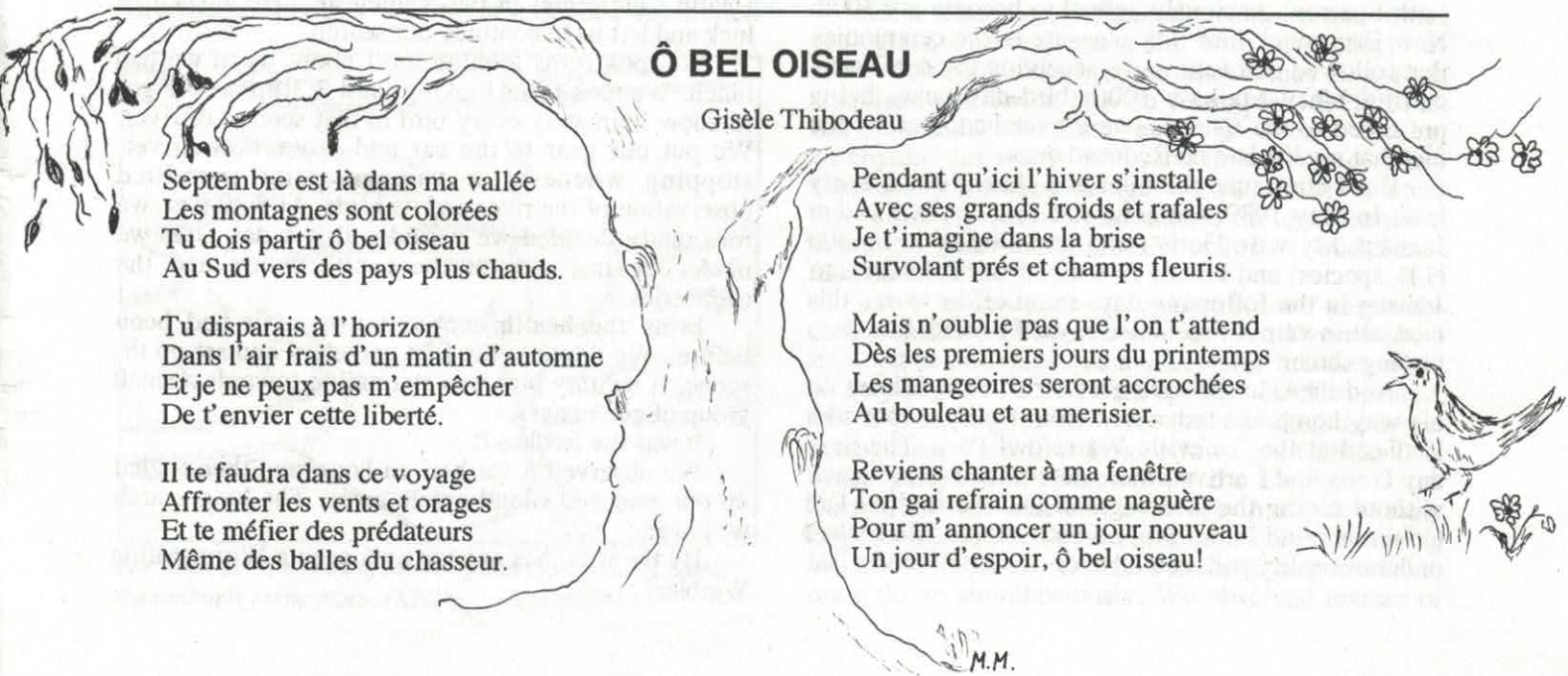
Shadblow in bloom and mixed forest (Photo: DSC)

Cultural Values — Much of Canada's cultural heritage and identity is closely linked to our natural heritage. Examples include provincial emblems, the national flag, and activities such as making maple syrup, gathering fiddleheads, canoeing and snowshoeing.

Educational Values — Protecting natural areas provides us with invaluable opportunities to find out more about the world around us, including the other species that co-inhabit our world, and more importantly gives us the opportunity to learn about ourselves.

Rather than focus solely on values and benefits, maybe we should focus on costs. What is the cost of the extinction or extirpation of a species? What is the cost of losing critical natural areas such as old growth forests and distinctive landforms? What is the cost to society, wildlife and landforms of not having protected natural areas?

¹ Condensed from a presentation to the Atlantic Region Workshop on Protected Areas, 1993.



Ô BEL OISEAU

Gisèle Thibodeau

Septembre est là dans ma vallée
Les montagnes sont colorées
Tu dois partir ô bel oiseau
Au Sud vers des pays plus chauds.

Tu disparais à l'horizon
Dans l'air frais d'un matin d'automne
Et je ne peux pas m'empêcher
De t'envier cette liberté.

Il te faudra dans ce voyage
Affronter les vents et orages
Et te méfier des prédateurs
Même des balles du chasseur.

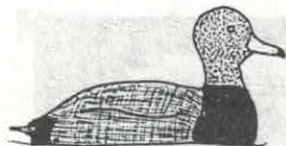
Pendant qu'ici l'hiver s'installe
Avec ses grands froids et rafales
Je t'imagine dans la brise
Survolant prés et champs fleuris.

Mais n'oublie pas que l'on t'attend
Dès les premiers jours du printemps
Les mangeoires seront accrochées
Au bouleau et au merisier.

Reviens chanter à ma fenêtre
Ton gai refrain comme naguère
Pour m'annoncer un jour nouveau
Un jour d'espoir, ô bel oiseau!



M.M.



Redhead Duck

Cecil Johnston

As a beginning birder, August 12, 1968, it became my ambition to identify every bird species I was to see. Ah, the innocence of youth and the ambition of the ill-informed. However, I tried. Many nights I fell asleep with the field guide dropping to the floor. Everywhere I went, my binoculars and my Peterson accompanied me. Friends began to avoid me, because in mid conversation I would go on point, and without any explanation whatsoever, take off in pursuit of a U.F.O. Neighbours began drawing their blinds during the day, as well as in the evening. Twice I was almost arrested and charged with being a peeping Tom, and on one of those occasions I actually was stalking a bird.

But I persisted, and as the years passed, my list of birds grew. So did my list of fellow birders, whom I met along the way. All of them were slightly odd, like myself: Jim Wilson, Peter Pearce, Mary Majka, Dave Myles, etc. We traded information on good birding areas, advised each other of rare bird sightings, and pretended sorrow when learning that the other fellow had not seen the rare Hammer-headed Hummingbird of which we had pictures.

One bird that everybody else seemed to have spotted continued to elude me: the Redhead duck. In Ontario each year I would see hundreds of them, but in New Brunswick they formed a conspiracy to remain hidden from my view. Jim Wilson had found his Redhead in the Jemseg area, so every time business took me to Fredericton or farther north, I would travel via Jemseg, where every bird in the river was checked with binoculars and scope, to no avail. Soon these birds got to know my car and would head for cover when they heard it coast to a stop. To anyone who may have noticed the scarcity of birds in this area from time to time I apologize. (These birds have been Cecilized.)

On September 25, 1984, on White Head Island a Lark Sparrow graciously agreed to become my 300th New Brunswick bird. My pleasure in the ceremonies that followed that followed—receiving my certificate, cutting Mary Majka's 300th bird-day cake, being presented to the Queen—were overshadowed by the fact that my list had no Redhead duck.

But I continued the hunt and chased down every lead. In May 1989, someone else found a Redhead at Jemseg. My wife Doris (who was closing in on 300 N.B. species) and I made five trips from Saint John to Jemseg in the following days in an effort to see this bird, all in vain. I reconciled myself to a Redheadless birding career.

And then, in the spring of 1990, Don Gibson on his way home to Fredericton from Halifax, spotted a Redhead at the Sackville Waterfowl Park. The next day Doris and I arrived there determined not to leave without seeing the rare vagrant. Did we find it? Did Columbus find India? No, on both counts. We looked under every lily pad, behind every clump of reeds. But

we still drove home with no check mark opposite Redhead duck.

Somebody advised me later that evening that the waterfowl impoundments on the Tantramar Marsh sometimes played host to Redheads, and perhaps the one from Sackville had flown into one of them. Determined to go down fighting, Doris and I returned to Sackville the next day and, armed with a map supplied by the wildlife service, began our search. I don't know how hard the wind was blowing that day, but any attempt to walk in other than a crouch while crossing the marsh or scaling the embankments of the impoundments resulted in disaster. We startled into flight many ducks from these areas, but none were classified as Redheads, at least by our bleared vision. And so, another silent drive home, covered in mud and smelling rather unusual.

You're all familiar with the quotation "To them that hath, more shall be given." Well, try this on for size. On August 22, 1991, Don Gibson, while standing on the bank of the river opposite Fredericton, had a single bird drop to the water about 100 feet from him, and one look confirmed that he was seeing his second Redhead. We all know that Don is a pretty nice guy, but even he doesn't deserve such luck.

A friend phoned me that evening to advise me of Don's find and to provide exact directions how to get there.

Doris and I arrived in Fredericton the next day at about 10 a.m. and started the search. We located Don's place on the river, but found no Redhead among the goldeneyes and cormorants scattered there. When we were about ready to leave the area, Don Gibson arrived and suggested we follow him into Fredericton, where we could use our scope to better advantage from viewing locations to which he would take us. Don's locations were behind the Victoria Health Centre and in two cemeteries. He wished us luck and left us to continue our search.

We took turns looking until noon, when we had lunch. We took turns looking until 3:30 p.m. We got to know intimately every bird in that section of river. We put our gear in the car and drove down river, stopping whenever a vantage point permitted observation of the river and its birds. At 5:30 p.m. we reluctantly decided we would call it a day after we made one last stop at the health centre and the cemeteries.

From the health center it was as it had been before. We drove to the first cemetery and set up the scope. A solitary bird was swimming towards a small group of goldeneyes.

It was **the** Redhead!

We observed it for half an hour, and then folded up our gear and silently stole away. The long search was over.

By the way, has anyone ever seen a Worm-eating Warbler?

Birds of the Home Place: Remembrances of Times Past on the Kingston Peninsula, N.B.

K. Henrik Deichmann

My "home place" is the small, quiet community of Summerville at the lower end of the Kingston Peninsula. Our 100-acre lot was once Tom and Brigit Martin's farm, but there's been no plowing since 1950, when the Farmall and I turned over the upper hill field. Since then red and white spruce have been planted there and are now quite mature. Most of the "woods" has been cut at least twice and is in various stages of regeneration or decadence. The only obvious current landscape change is a new home with its regulation patch of manicured lawn, some planted shrubbery and a few colourful non-native flowers. Nature is being intruded upon, but hardly beaten into submission!

The original forest was largely Yellow Birch, Sugar Maple, Beech and Red Spruce, with some Hemlock and White Pine, but now all the Beech and most of the Hemlocks are gone. The contemporary forest is a hodge-podge of the rest plus White Birch, Balsam Fir, White Spruce and White Cedar. The most disturbed areas support alder and Pin and Choke cherries. Being damp and next to the Kennebecasis with its annual freshet, our property has a good store of White and Red Ash, a few aspen, and we're proud to report a self-started Basswood. The luxury of an elm we don't have, and with Dutch elm disease still rampant, it may be just as well.

Many in the birdwatching fraternity recall some "earth-shattering" sighting that got them going on birding, but I can't remember when I wasn't watching and wondering. One date does have significance though. On November 1, 1945, a fortnight after I'd reached eleven, I acquired my first real bird book: a brand new *Birds of Canada* by Percy Algernon Taverner. Without a shadow of a doubt I substituted

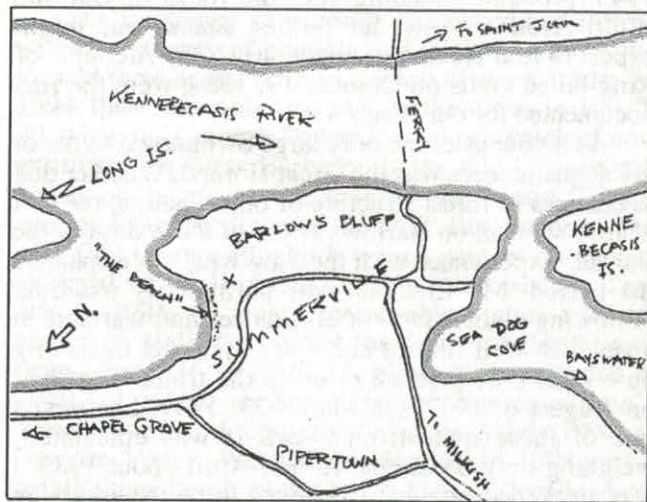
studying this rather weighty tome for my regular homework. I loved to study the colour plates. It didn't bother me that Major Brooks made his ducks and grouse too fat, or that F.C. Hennessey's subjects were stiff and washed out. These illustrations were to my innocent eyes the best the world had to offer. (I wasn't aware that Roger Tory Peterson had published his *Field Guide* the year I was born.) In the spring of '46 I got my first binoculars, and I still have strong shoulders; the navy surplus model weighed in at over 1.5 kg. For fear of irreparable damage I always carried them in their stiff brown case. My school peers snickered but being big for my age aided my cause. It was only when I reached university that I yielded to the incessant taunting and kept my then more compact binocs out of sight as much as possible.

Who in the late forties would have predicted the current explosion in the Maritime population of Mourning Doves? Or, the arrival and eventual boom in the numbers of the Evening Grosbeak? I logged the first grosbeak for Summerville on January 15, 1946. It was a male eating lilac buds. During a class tour of the New Brunswick Museum I recall the then curator of natural science, Austin Squires, showing a polite and kindly interest in the report. (This bird had first reached the province in the winter of 1913—Squires, *The Birds of N.B.*, 1976.)

There have been declines for many species; two examples are the Eastern Bluebird and the Cliff Swallow. One of the "foreigners" causing grief is the Starling, and it still prospers, but the House Sparrow is declining fast. I will never forgive its aggressive commandeering of the jar-like homes of the Cliff Swallows.

As a disciple of Leopold, Odum and other ecologists, I have no problem with the concept of succession except that in some cases it may be just too simplistic. Otherwise, how do you explain the fact that the Common Yellowthroat has been "witchy, witchy" for nearly 50 years, in the face of fairly significant vegetation change. We've gone from wood reed-grass to willows and alders, the only constant being the water table. Guess our little friend hasn't read the book!

After an absence of a number of years the Common Loon (I like Great Northern Diver better) returned to our shores as a successful breeder, when on July 21, 1987 a pair with a single chick appeared. In 1994, our high hopes were dashed when the loons disappeared for a few days following a Canada Day beach party. In 1993 and 1994 the Double-crested Cormorant was much in evidence in Kennebecasis Bay. In the 1950s a few cormorant would be going about their business, but last summer it was normal to see a dozen simultaneously. We observed masses of



The Summerville area of the Kingston Peninsula. X marks the author's home place. (KHD)

small fish breaching off Summerville beach in early August and Frank and Mitzi Withers reported "lots of small fish dimpling the surface" on Milkish Creek on October 24 (Saint John Nat. Club *Bulletin*, Jan-Feb 1995). It is tempting to assume that the abundance of cormorants is related to these observations of bait fish in 1994. We have an apparent breeding record for the Double-crested Cormorant on the lower river. In the summer of 1945, Mr. LeBaron Kingston, then a resident of Long Island, related how he had seen a flightless young "shag" in the vicinity of the Minister's Face on the island.



For many springs we always had a pair of Black Ducks in our beachside pond. Generations of those dabblers must have called this pond rearing territory as far back as the pond has been a water body. In May 1992 this changed, when a pair of Mallards arrived. This pair or its progeny has been with us ever since. But even the "universal duck" may not be writing the final chapter! In the spring of 1994 a neighbour surreptitiously placed a couple of duck boxes at the water's edge, and as expected a drake Wood Duck was caught eyeing them.

Common Goldeneyes are common on Kennebecasis Bay each spring and fall. The following ducks species have also been observed in the Summerville area: Northern Pintail, Green-winged and Blue-winged teals, Ring-necked Duck, Greater Scaup, Oldsquaw (both in spring and fall), Common and Red-breasted mergansers, and possibly American Wigeon. Of these, the Green-winged and the two mergansers have been found nesting. (Over the years I found a number of merganser nests along the shores of Long Island—cards in Maritimes Nest Records Scheme). Canada Geese, of course, migrate through the area; in the late '40s they would occasionally come down in local fields, but that doesn't occur these days.

In 1993, we had what we judged to be a youthful pair of Ospreys nesting in our back woodlot. The nest was scanty and they weren't successful, but generally their kind is doing well in the region. There's three top four times as many as in the '50s. For the Bald Eagle, I believe the situation is reversed. Consider this: on a rowboat trip July 10-12, 1948, a companion and I found a pair at White Head and another at Clifton, where none occur as breeders today. I haven't had the time in the last decade to get anything dependable on the hawks as a group. In the past I have found at least two structures believed to be disused nests of the Goshawk on Barlows Bluff. No Sharp-shinned nests have been located to date. We're not sure if we still have Broad-wings on Barlows Bluff, but I did find one on the Joe Long Road (Milkish area) in early July, 1994. We did have a "first" on the bluff in 1992 when we became aware of juvenile Red-tailed Hawks begging food from adults. I've discounted my few old Peregrine records as dubious, however with a contemporary eerie in the City of

Saint John, there is no telling what the future may hold for our side of the Kennebecasis. The Merlin is strictly a transient, and the American Kestrel is seen only rarely, now that farming has all but disappeared (one observation in summer, 1994). In 1949, there were three known pairs of Kestrels in a two-kilometre square. They used nesting cavities made by the Northern Flicker (2) and Pileated Woodpecker. The Northern Harrier was a transient in the past, and probably still is.

The only native gallinaceous bird found in the Summerville environs is the Ruffed Grouse. Unwittingly, I was responsible for the demise of one diligent mother. Startling a hen with her brood, I immediately froze, hoping to memorize the hiding place of at least some of the "balls of fluff." The hen was so involved in feigning a broken wing and wailing, that neither she nor I caught sight of a fox, until it was too late. As a result, I've been extremely careful around nests and broods ever since.

On April 13, 1949, I did a one-mile dusk survey for "singing" Woodcock. A total of seven birds were recorded. In 1992, only one song fragment was heard. The Spotted Sandpiper still nests along the beach, but instead of a polygynous female having two or more mates, it appears that at this location it practices monogamy. No other shorebirds nest regularly in the immediate area, although the Common Snipe is likely in swamp bogs in the centre of the peninsula. Small numbers of several other shorebirds have been seen during migration; the most noteworthy were 5 Whimbrels on cultivated land in September 1949.

Both the Great Blue Heron and the American Bittern are transients only, as is the Sora, one of which was found on August 15, 1948, at the edge of a drought-shrunken pool.

Of gulls, only the Herring and Great Black-backed occur regularly. Breeding is probably non-existent now but was rare in the past. I found a downy Herring Gull on the beach at Summerville in the summer of 1945; probable breeding site: the rocks of Barlows Bluff. Around winter ice fishing shacks one might expect to find Iceland or Glaucous Gulls. A couple of Ring-billed Gulls on October 19, 1989, were the first documented for our beach.

As a youngster the only large owl known to me or my acquaintances was the Great Horned. Whether due to changes in forest structure or other factors, the owl heard and seen on Barlows Bluff in these days is the Barred. Experiences with the Saw-whet have spanned the period. My first one was particularly exciting. Following a noisy mob of chickadees and warblers in a smallish well-limbed cedar my eyes met those of a Saw-whet Owl perched close to the trunk. That was on August 6, 1947. On March 23, 1949, I retrieved one of these owls from a cat. It was emaciated, weighing only 83 grams. In mid-April about 1985, I was awakened by what I believed to be the courtship calls of this bird. Then, on Christmas Eve, 1993, one flashed by the headlights just west of Chapel Grove,



about 2 km from the other sightings. Two other owls are represented by mortalities: a Northern Hawk Owl was shot by a neighbour in the fall of 1945, and a Long-eared Owl was found dead on the bluff on August 28, 1948.

The Black-billed Cuckoo was particularly abundant in 1947, 1983 and 1994. In these years, it's suggested that the forest tent caterpillar and other gregarious caterpillars were at the epidemic level.

Only once have we been knowingly the host of a Whip-poor-will; one called most of the warm cloudy night of August 8, 1949. Post-breeding and dispersing flocks of the Common Nighthawk are occasionally witnessed, such as on the evening of August 15, 1992, when 65 to 70 flew and fed their way westward over White Head. I don't have anything particular on Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, or Belted Kingfisher except that they occur.

The apparent absence of Yellow-bellied Sapsucker has me mystified. Both the white-backed woodpeckers are present in about the numbers one would expect. The Northern Flicker doesn't seem to be present in anything like former numbers. The Pileated was seen and heard regularly throughout the late 1940s. My most recent observation was for one on June 10, 1988. In part due to confusion over the respective names I can't sort out the details for the two three-toed species, however I'm convinced the local spruce swamps are the haunts of at least the Black-backed.

My first Eastern Phoebe was a real surprise. I didn't know they returned in April! The date was the 17th in 1947, the place, the churchyard of the Summerville United Church. In August 1994 I heard a phoebe, but neither this species nor the Eastern Kingbird has to my knowledge nested with us. While not the case in the '40s or the '50s, the Eastern Wood-pewee is now the commonest flycatcher. Our deciduous trees are becoming larger and fully crowned, and therefore more attractive to it. In this group we still have the Least and the Alder as residents and the Yellow-bellied as a migrant. A Great Crested Flycatcher was noted on migration on May 24, 1947.

The frequency of Catbirds has ebbed and flowed with the quantity of bramble and thicket. In 1972, we located three active nests in a space of about 1.5 ha. In 1994, there was only one pair, as there was in 1948-49, when the Catbirds "owned" mother's patch of now extirpated Japanese Barberry. In the mid '70s we still heard on occasion the call of the Wood Thrush coming from the slopes of the bluff. But, no more. My very first Eastern Bluebirds were a pair set off against an April snowfall in Bill Gamble's wet pasture. That was in 1945. (It was a memorable picture.) In the spring of 1948 I recorded the Bluebird three times from March 26 to April 11. None were recorded in 1949, or since, at Summerville. The Swainson's Thrush was heard regularly during early July 1994, as was the Veery. We had no Hermits in 1994, yet I recall them being present less than a decade ago. Robins remain abundant.

The first White-breasted Nuthatch for Summerville was found on October 19, 1989. (Others have been seen along the Long Reach, e.g. Hardings Point.) The Red-breasted species has actually been abundant in some recent falls, in response to bountiful cone crops. In the summer of 1994, Winter Wrens were calling vigorously from the bluff, like they did before the "crash" a few winters ago. We've had House Wrens in fall migration, but an enthusiastically singing male that spent a week working between several brush piles in May 1986 was the first apparent serious attempt at breeding. My first Brown Creeper was a singing male on a hemlock trunk on April 8, 1947. Others have been seen since.

One could say that the swallows of our area have been decimated. In 1949, there were 14 pairs of Tree Swallows known, and in 1994 only two pairs were recorded. (Granted in '49 we had eight boxes up, and this has been reduced to two of late, both of which were unoccupied in 1994, a contrast to the past when 100% occupancy was the norm.) Both Barn and Cliff Swallows are gone from the areas as breeders. In 1949, a barn, which has since been razed, held a colony of 43 Cliff Swallows.



For me, the icterid group is something of an enigma in the Summerville area. In my notes from 1945, I find a reference to a Rusty Blackbird nest, which contained three fledglings, at the edge of the beach. I'm having some personal difficulty with this, as I was around 11 at the time and am not sure that I could positively separate the Rusty from the Common Grackle. Both species migrated through the area then, as they do now, but in that era I wasn't ever able to find the Common Grackle as a local nester. This past summer we had a group of what seemed to be post-nesting Grackles moving about in early July. Needless to say, there was never another known attempt at nesting by what was determined to be a Rusty Blackbird. Red-winged Blackbirds are intriguing too. A male vigorously defended his territory against all comers including American Crows and the Belted Kingfisher, between May 22 and June 5, 1948. No nest or female were ever evident. Then in the spring about 1970, I found an active nest of the Red-wing at the edge of the freshet with a full complement of eggs. The nest was in a spiraea bush. There were no further known attempts at nesting until the spring of 1991, when again a male briefly defended a territory. As to the Brown-headed Cowbird, we haven't noticed many. The Bobolink, once common in the moist fields, was reduced to mainly a migrant by the late 1980s, if not before. Only one bird, a female, was found in the Gambles' field in July 1994. The only Eastern Meadowlark observations are "old" and probably refer to top migrants only. As to the Northern Oriole we're still waiting.

When I was growing up both the Common Raven and the American Crow were persecuted, a euphemism for being shot! While the harassment has ceased neither are particularly common today. I recall in 1949 finding nests of Crows within 400 feet of each

other, an unlikely scenario at present. Blue Jays seem to be everywhere these days, quite a bit more common than in the past. Gray Jays have been driven off into the deeper woods; it's well known that the first mentioned is dominant. Black-capped Chickadees were very obvious in the summer of 1994. One would wonder if they're taking up the slack in the wood warbler deficit. And yes, the Red-eyed Vireo still sings in 1994.

According to my notes, the half dozen dependably present warblers during the 1988 breeding season were: Common Yellowthroat, Black-and-white Warbler, Chestnut-sided, Canada, Yellow Warbler and American Redstart. During July of 1994 this assessment basically held except that the Northern Parula seems to have picked up, possibly attracted to the more mature, lichen-bearing trees. Compare the two years mentioned with 1949 when in addition to the species mentioned, the following were nesting: Magnolia, Black-throated Green, Ovenbird and Northern Waterthrush, an additional four species. In earlier years I could have missed both the Cape May and the



Bay-breasted as well as the Tennessee. The warbler picture is not a clear one, however it doesn't look too healthy.

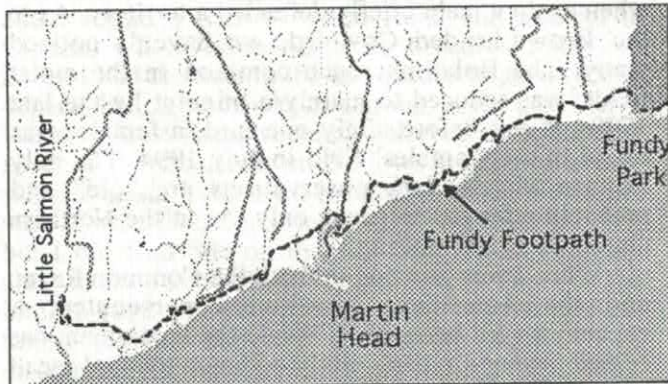
Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, especially the nattily attired males were always a feature of our mid to late May passerine migration. As they were about all through the summer of 1994, I can only presume they probably bred. If we've gained this one we've lost others; the Savannah, Vesper and Chipping sparrows seem to be gone. And while the White-throated still sings diligently it's rarer, as are the Dark-eyed Junco, the Swamp Sparrow and the Song. The 1947-49 arrival dates for Song Sparrow were: April 5, March 23, and March 26, respectively. Finches such as the Purple and the Goldfinch are about, but I don't feel confident to comment on their current status.

Obviously, I'd like to be around to see what happens during another 50 years, however I'm prepared to leave this to others. I hope my son Mark, or his sons Johan or Thor, may take up the job. Good luck guys, field investigations are often fine fun!

Fundy Footpath

A new 23.2-km hiking trail has been laid out along the Bay of Fundy shore from Fundy National Park west to the Little Salmon River. The Fundy Footpath was constructed by volunteers from the Dobson Trail and Outdoor Enthusiasts in cooperation with the Fundy Model Forest. The trail route is mostly 200 to 500 metres from the shore but provides many scenic views. The topography is rugged with elevation changes of 500 to 700 feet in 1 km, where streams cut deep valleys in the hills. The trail is accessible from the Goose River Trail in Fundy National Park and from the Little Salmon River, Martin Head and Goose Creek roads. The trail will connect with one being built by the provincial government from St. Martins to Little Salmon River and there is some talk of building a trail from St. Martins to Saint John.

For more information on the Fundy Footpath contact Edwin Melanson, 71 Derby Street, Moncton, NB E1C 6Y8; tel. (506)855-5089.



Fatal Light Awareness Program

The Fatal Light Awareness Program addresses the issue of bird casualties at highrise office buildings, transmission towers and other tall structures. Bright lighting can confuse migrating birds especially on foggy or overcast nights. FLAP works to monitor the problem, rescue injured birds, and reduce the hazard. FLAP encourages the formation of local groups in cities where bird kill problems exist.

For information write FLAP, 1 Guelph Rd., Erin, ONT N0B 1T0. Regular membership is \$10.

Maine Wildlife Guide

For those planning to visit Maine, a new booklet might be useful: *On Water, On Wings, In the Woods—A Guide for Maine Wildlife Watchers* is published by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, 284 State Street, Station #41, Augusta, ME 04333, tel (207)-287-2871. It describes briefly 62 areas selected by veteran Maine wildlife observers. The booklet is 64 pages and costs US\$4.95. — Christopher Packard

Maritimes Nest Records Scheme

The Maritimes Nest Records Scheme is a cooperative effort to monitor the nesting of birds in the Maritime Provinces. The scheme has more than 42,000 cards with information on 200 species of birds. However, the number of cards submitted during 1993 and 1994 was the lowest in 20 years. For meaningful analysis of breeding success, more information is required.

You can help out by requesting data cards and reporting your observations of bird nests of common species. Write Maritimes Nest Records Scheme, P.O. Box 1590, Sackville, NB E0A 3C0.



23rd AGM

N. B. Federation of Naturalists

May 26, 27 & 28, 1995

Hosted by

The Kennebecasis Naturalist Society
Sussex, N.B.

Theme: The Kennebecasis Valley -
Naturally Yours

Banquet Speaker: Lars Larsen,

Friday, May 26

Kiwanis Community Centre 5:00 to 10:00 p.m.
registration, social time, viewing of displays, (pressed plants, some common mosses, Potash Company of Saskatchewan, things of historical and natural interest as contributed by club members) video of Falls Brook. Short outing at dusk to see Chimney Swifts roost in downtown Sussex.
Stop at the Sussex Library to see a display of art contributed by club members focusing on nature.

Saturday, May 27

- meet at the Kiwanis Community Centre
6:00 - 9:00 am : free muffins, fruit, coffee and tea
6:30 - 8:00 : early bird outings in nearby locales
guided
6:30 - 3:30 : Falls Brook field trip
8:00 - 9:00 : registration
viewing of exhibits
9:00 - 3:30 : main field trips, guided
3:00 - 4:30 pm : Tour of Royal Gardens
Tour of Agricultural Museum
4:30 - 5:30 : Social Time at the Timberland Motel
5:30 - 8:00 : Banquet at the Timberland Motel with
Lars Larsen
8:30 - 10:00 : AGM Business meeting at the
Timberland Motel

Sunday, May 28

- meet at the Kiwanis Community Centre
6:00 - 9:00 am : free muffins, fruit, coffee and tea
6:30 - 8:00 : early bird outings in nearby locales
guided
6:30 - 3:30 : Falls Brook field trip, (if sufficient
interest)
9:00 - 3:00 : main field trips, guided
3:00 - 4:30 pm : Tour of Royal Gardens
Tour of Agricultural Museum

23ième AGA

Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B.

le 26, 27 et 28 mai 1995

Animée par

La Société naturaliste du Kennebecasis
Sussex, N.-B.

Thème: La vallée du Kennebecasis -
la vôtre naturellement

Conférencier au banquet: Lars Larsen

Le vendredi, 26 mai

Centre communautaire des Kiwanis de 17h00 à 22h00. Inscription, rencontres, visites de kiosques, (plantes pressées, certaines mousses communes, "Potash Company of Saskatchewan", objets d'intérêt historique et naturel contribués par les membres du club), vidéo de Falls Brook. Courte sortie à la brunante pour observer les martinets ramoneurs au coeur de Sussex. Un arrêt à la bibliothèque de Sussex pour voir une exposition d'art sur la nature contribué par les membres du club.

Le samedi, 27 mai

- rencontre au centre communautaire des Kiwanis
6h00 - 9h00 : petit déjeuner gratuit de
muffins, fruits, café et thé
6h30 - 8h00 : randonnée des lève-tôt à des
endroits locaux
6h30 - 15h30 : randonnée à Falls Brook
8h00 - 9h00 : inscription
visite des kiosques
9h00 - 15h30 : randonnées principales,
guidées
15h00 - 16h30 : visite Royal Gardens
16h30 - 17h30 : visite du Musée agricole
16h30 - 17h30 : temps libre pour se rencontrer
au Timberland Motel
17h30 - 20h00 : Banquet au Timberland Motel
avec conférencier Lars Larsen
20h30 - 22h00 : AGA au Timberland Motel

Le dimanche, 28 mai

- rencontre au centre communautaire des Kiwanis
6h00 - 9h00 : petit déjeuner gratuit de
muffins, fruits, café et thé
6h30 - 8h00 : randonnée des lève-tôt à des
endroits locaux
6h30 - 15h30 : randonnée à Falls Brook, (s'il y
a suffisamment d'intérêt)
9h00 - 15h00 : randonnées principales,
guidées
15h00 - 16h30 : visite Royal Gardens
visite du Musée agricole

Costs:

Registration -

If registered before April 28, 1995.

\$ 15 each

After April 28, 1995 registration is

\$ 25 each

Note: anyone registering prior to April 28 will be eligible for a draw for one free nights accommodation at the Timberland Motel or 2 passes to the banquet.

Van Tour - \$ 10 each

Banquet - \$ 18 each (roast beef, salmon or chicken, casserole, vegetables, rice, peroggies, roast potatoes, salads, raspberry cheesecake, tea/coffee)

Note: Banquet prices include tips and taxes.

Box Lunches - \$ 4 each per day

Notes:

1. Please remember to bring appropriate footwear, raincoats, insect repellent, field guides, binoculars, geology hammers and day packs.

2. Trips are set up so all can go on early birders walks and a main trip. Tours of Royal Gardens, the Agricultural Museum, viewing Chimney Swifts and visiting the art display at the Library will have to be worked in.

Coûts:

Inscription -

Si faite avant le 28 avril, 1995

15\$ chacun

Si faite après le 28 avril, 1995

25\$ chacun

Note: Toute personne s'inscrivant avant le 28 avril sera éligible de gagner le tirage pour une nuit d'hébergement gratuite au Timberland Motel ou 2 billets au banquet.

Fourgonnette - 10\$ chacun

Banquet - 18\$ chacun (rôti de boeuf, saumon or poulet, casserole, légumes, riz, piroques, pommes de terre rôties, salades, gâteau au fromage aux framboises, thé/café).

Note: Le prix du banquet inclue toutes taxes et pourboires.

Dîners en boîte - 4\$ chacun par jour

Note:

1. S.V.P. n'oubliez pas d'emporter les chaussures appropriées, manteaux de pluie, insecticide, guides d'identification, jumelles, marteaux de géologie et sacs à dos.

2. Les randonnées sont planifiées de façon que tous peuvent aller sur une sortie lève-tôt et une des randonnées principales. Les visites au Royal Garden, au Musée agricole, pour voir les martinets ramoneurs et l'exposition d'art à la bibliothèque devront être fait en temps libre.

Field Trips

Early Birders:

A. Duck Watch

- led by Barry McPhee & Pauline Thibodeau.
A drive to the most likely locales to view waterfowl along the Kennebecasis River and flood waters.

B. Back of Timberland

- led by Paul Martin & Stan Sample.
A hike along woodland trails through varied terrain.

C. Orland's Walk - led by Gert Bishop.

A fascinating walk along Smith's Creek, viewing birds and wild flowers. (Dutchman's Breeches, Spring Beauties, Dog Tooth Violets, Bloodroot and Wild Leeks).

D. Colby Yeomans

- led by Colby Yeomans.
Join Colby on an early morning tour of the Yeomans' property near Dutch Valley. We'll be looking for birds, waterfowl and animals that frequent this beautiful area including ponds that are inhabited by beavers.

Main Field Trips:

1. Falls Brook - led by Darren Byers,

(6:30 am - 3:30 pm).

This trip starts with a 1 hour drive from Sussex followed by a 3/4 hour walk through old growth hardwoods. Next comes a 2 hour rugged walk through steep terrain to view a most spectacular water fall. Time and water levels permitting we will walk and climb along the river's edge as the water flows for a quarter mile through a series of smaller waterfalls. This is a long, 6 hour, walk once you leave the vehicles. Hikers may decide to complete only part of the walk. Sturdy footwear is required.

2. Woodland Tour - led by Elmer Folkins,

(9:00 am - 2:00 pm).

Take a horse drawn wagon ride through a woodlot out near Carsonville, viewing birds and plants. Learn how this woodlot is managed using selective cutting techniques.

Randonnées

Lève-tôt

A. Observation de canards

- guidée par Barry McPhee & Pauline Thibodeau. Une promenade le long de la rivière Kennebecasis, arrêtant aux lieux plus probables pour apercevoir des canards.

B. En arrière du Timberland

- guidée par Paul Martin & Stan Sample
Une marche le long des sentiers dans la forêt dans des terrains variés.

C. Marche de Orland - guidée par Gert Bishop. Une marche fascinante le long de Smith's Creek pour faire l'observation d'oiseaux et de fleurs des champs telles que les "Dutchman's Breeches", "Spring Beauties", "Dog Tooth Violets", "Bloodroot", et les poireaux sauvages (la traductrice s'excuse pour l'incapacité de trouver la traduction des noms de ces plantes).

D. Colby Yeomans - guidée par Colby Yeomans. Joignez Colby pour une tournée matinale de la terre des Yeomans à proximité de la Dutch Valley. Nous observerons les oiseaux, les canards et mammifères qui fréquentent ce bel endroit, y inclue les étangs habités par les castors.

Randonnées principales:

1. Falls Brook - guidée par Darren Byers

(6h30 - 15h30)

Ce voyage débute par un trajet d'une heure de Sussex, et suivi d'une marche de 45 minutes dans une vieille forêt décidues. Ensuite, une marche rigoureuse de deux heures sur un terrain à pic, menant à un vue spectaculaire des chutes. Si le temps et le niveau de l'eau le permet, nous marcherons et grimperons le long du bord de la rivière pour une distance d'environ un quart de mile pour se rendre à une série de plus petites chutes. Ceci est une longue marche de 6 heures après avoir laissé les véhicules. Certaines personnes peuvent décider de ne pas compléter tout le trajet. De solides chaussures de marche sont exigées.

2. Promenade dans la forêt - guidée par

Elmer Folkins (9h00 - 14h00) Promenade en chariot tiré par un cheval dans la forêt proche de Carsonville, pour faire de l'observation d'oiseaux et de plantes. Apprenez comment l'aménagement de la forêt se fait avec une méthode de coupe sélective sur cette terre.

3. Surface Geology - led by Mark Connell,
(9:00 am - 2:00 pm)

We will make a series of stops at outcrops through the area to view and explain the underlying rock structure and the mineral deposits, (potash, gypsum), and fossils. We will travel through ancient deserts that yielded salt flats; old lake basins with fossils of coal; and over boulder fields deposited at the foot of 20,000 foot high mountains. It will be helpful to bring a geology pick or an old hammer.

4. Cotter Hollow - led by Bruce Bagnell,
(9:00 am - 2:00 pm).

This will be easy walking along an old road that follows a small brook. It's a good location for different trees, shrubs, ferns and mosses. Bruce's specialty is mosses. Please bring a magnifying lens and rubber boots to allow off the road investigation.

5. Van Tour - led by Jim Brown & driven by Irene Elliot,
(9:00 am - 2:00 pm).

Only limited walking will be required on this van tour of the hot spots of the area; fresh, salt, and mineral water springs; waterfowl; scenic vistas; one of the trees listed in the book "Great Trees of N.B." Limited to 10, due to van size.

6. Kennebecasis River / Swinging Bridge Walk - led by John Candy,
(9:00 am - 2:00 pm).

We will take a stroll along the banks of the Kennebecasis River and nearby fields, (plus the nearby lagoon, if time permits), viewing different species of birds and plant life along the way. We will cross the river via the D.O.T. swinging foot bridge. It is planned to be close to Tim Horton's and MacDonald's at noon to eat and take advantage of their washroom facilities. We will make our way back to our vehicles via the short route in time for those wishing to go on the side trips.

Side Trips:

I. Royal Gardens - led by Peter Candy, (3:00 - 4:30 pm).

A tour of a commercial wholesale nursery, growing roses, chrysanthemums, and bedding plants.

II. Agricultural Museum - led by Tom Anderson, (3:00 - 4:30 pm).

A collection of early machinery used in all manner of agriculture.

3. Géologie de la surface - guidée par Mark Connell (9h00 - 14h00). Nous ferons une série d'arrêts pour étudier les formations de roches et leur structure ainsi que les dépôts de minéraux (potasse et gypse), et fossiles. Nous nous rendrons dans des anciens déserts qui ont cédé leur place à des étendus de sels; un bassin d'un ancien lac offrira des fossiles dans la houille; ensuite dans des champs parsemés de grosses roches déposées par les glaciers au pieds de montagnes atteignant 20.000 pieds. Ce serait pratique d'emporter un marteau de géologie ou un vieux marteau.

4. Cotter Hollow - guidée par Bruce Bagnell (9h00 - 14h00) Cette randonnée sera une marche facile le long d'un vieux chemin qui borde un petit ruisseau. C'est un bon endroit pour observer les différents arbres, arbustes, fougères et mousses. La spécialité de Bruce est les mousses. Veuillez s.v.p. emporter une loupe et des bottes en caoutchouc pour permettre l'exploration à l'extérieur du sentier.

5. Randonnée en fourgonnette - guidée par Jim Brown, chauffée par Irene Elliot (9h00 - 14h00) Un montant limité de marche est exigé pour cette randonnée en fourgonnette pour visiter les meilleurs endroits dans la région; eaux fraîches, salées et les sources minérales; canards; paysages pittoresques; un des arbres mentionné dans le livre "Great Trees of N.B.". Les places sont limitées à 10 à cause de la grandeur de la fourgonnette.

6. Rivière Kennebecasis/Pont suspendu

- guidée par John Candy (9h00 - 14h00). Nous nous promènerons le long de la rivière Kennebecasis et les champs qui y bordent, (ainsi que l'étang qui s'y trouve, si le temps le permet), pour voir différentes espèces d'oiseaux et de plantes sur notre chemin. Nous traverserons la rivière par un pont suspendu qui a été monté par le ministère du transport. Nous planifions être tout proche du Tim Horton's et du MacDonald's au temps du dîner et d'en prendre avantage pour manger et pour se servir de leurs salles de bain. Nous nous rendrons de nouveau à nos voitures par un raccourci, donnant amplement de temps à ceux qui veulent se rendre aux autres randonnées.

Autres randonnées

I. Royal Gardens - guidée par Peter Candy (15h00 - 16h30). Une visite à une plantation commerciale où l'on fait pousser des rosiers, des chrysanthèmes et des petites plantes variées.

II. Musée agricole - guidée par Tom Anderson (15h00 - 16h30). Une collection d'anciennes machineries utilisées dans toutes formes d'agriculture.

Accommodations:

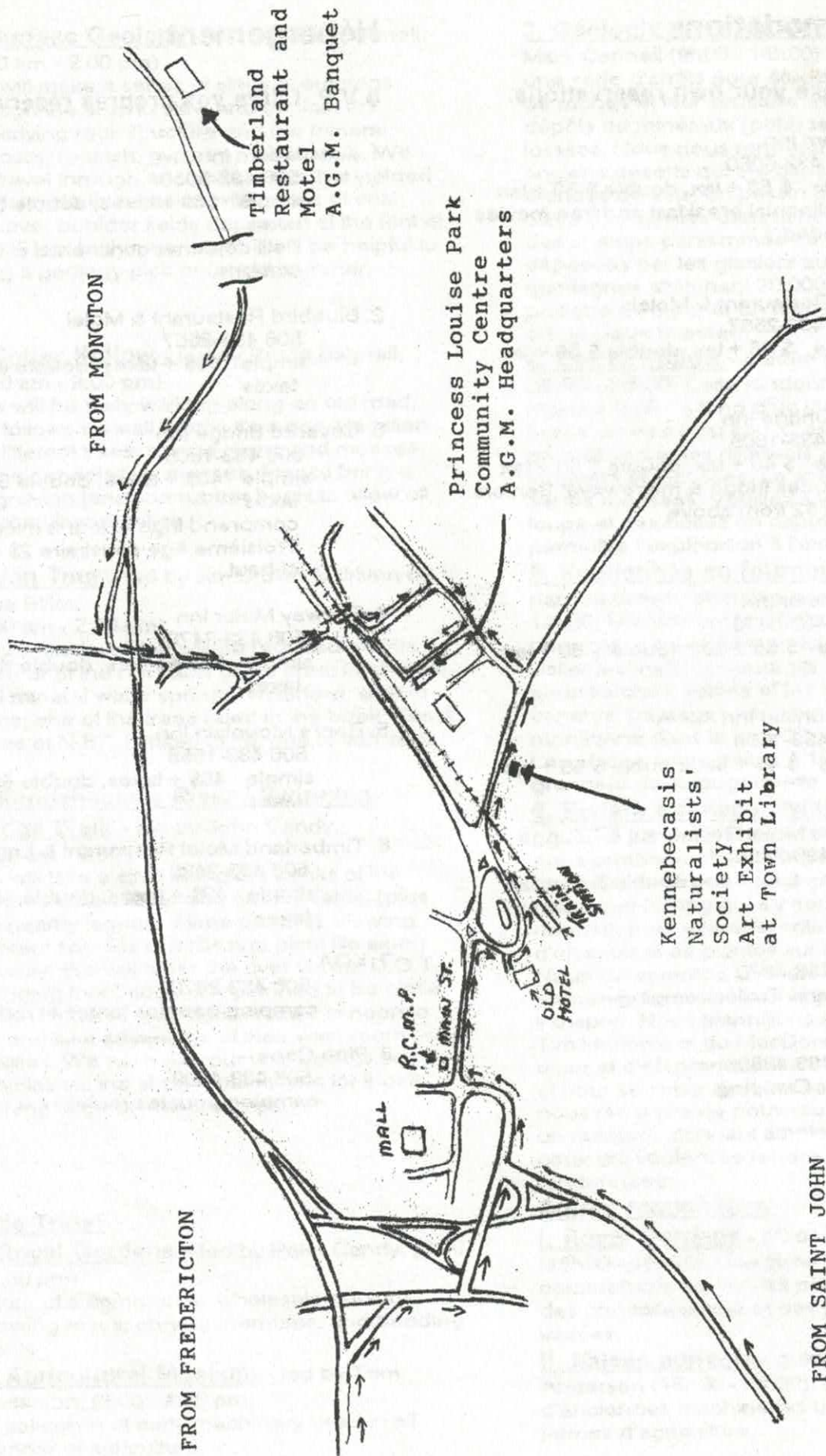
Please make your own reservations.

1. Amsterdam Inn
506 432-5050
single \$ 53 + tax, double \$ 59 + tax
Continental breakfast and free movies
included.
2. Bluebird Restaurant & Motel
506 433-2557
single \$ 46 + tax, double \$ 56 + tax
3. Covered Bridge Inn
506 433-1805
single \$ 40 + tax, double \$ 50 + tax
Includes fridge & microwave. Seniors
less \$2 from above
4. Fairway Motor Inn
506 433-3470
single \$ 55 + tax, double \$ 60 + tax
5. Rory's Mountain Inn
506 433-1558
single \$ 45 + tax, double \$ 55 + tax
6. Timberland Motel Restaurant & Lounge
506 433-2480
single \$ 42 + tax, double \$ 48 + tax
7. KOA
506 433-2870
Tent and Trailer camping
8. Pine Cone
506 433-4389
Trailer Camping

Hébergement:

S.V.P. faites vos propres réservations.

1. Amsterdam Inn
506 432-5050
simple 53\$ + taxes, double 59\$ +
taxes
Petit déjeuner continental et films
compris.
2. Bluebird Restaurant & Motel
506 433-2557
simple 46\$ + taxes, double 56\$ +
taxes
3. Covered Bridge Inn
506 433-1805
simple 40\$ + taxes, double 50\$ +
taxes
comprend frigo et four à micro-ondes.
Troisième âge soustraire 2\$ des prix
ci-haut.
4. Fairway Motor Inn
506 433-3470
simple 55\$ + taxes, double 60\$ +
taxes
5. Rory's Mountain Inn
506 433-1558
simple 45\$ + taxes, double 55\$ +
taxes
6. Timberland Motel Restaurant & Lounge
506 433-2480
simple 42\$ + taxes, double 48\$ +
taxes
7. KOA
506 433-2870
camping pour les tentes et roulottes
8. Pine Cone
506 433-4389
camping pour les roulettes



Registration:

Name(s) _____ No. of people _____
Address _____ City _____ Postal Code _____
Club Affiliation _____ Phone: _____

Registration:

Before April 28: (\$15/person) _____

After April 28: (\$25/person) _____ (Please make cheque to

Sat. Lunch: (\$4/person) _____ Kennebecasis Naturalist

Banquet: (\$18/person) _____ Society.)

Sun. Lunch (\$4/person) _____ Post dated cheques NOT

Van Tour: (\$10/person) _____ accepted.

Total _____

Early registration not only helps us plan. It saves you money and makes you eligible for a draw.

Please indicate your choices of field trips. Some (eg. Van tour) will be limited in size or perhaps offered only once.

My (our) field trip preferences are:

Saturday Early Bird

- A. Duck Watch -----
- B. Back of Timberland -----
- C. Orland's Walk -----
- D. Colby Yeoman's -----

Saturday Main Trips:

- 1. Falls Brook -----
- 2. Woodlot Tour -----
- 3. Surface Geology -----
- 4. Cotter Hollow -----
- 5. Van Tour -----
- 6. Kennebecasis River -----

Saturday Side Trips

- I. Royal Gardens -----
- II. Agricultural Museum -----

Sunday Early Bird

- A. Duck Watch -----
- B. Back of Timberland -----
- C. Orland's Walk -----
- D. Colby Yeoman's -----

Sunday Main Trips:

- 1. Falls Brook -----
- 2. Woodlot Tour -----
- 3. Surface Geology -----
- 4. Cotter Hollow -----
- 5. Van Tour -----
- 6. Kennebecasis River -----

Sunday Side Trips

- I. Royal Gardens -----
- II. Agricultural Museum -----

Before April 28, 1995
Return Registration to:

Kennebecasis Naturalist Society
Box 1565
Sussex, N.B. E0E 1P0

The Kennebecasis Naturalist Society and the NBFN are NOT responsible, or liable, for injuries, or other damages, to persons participating during any of the weekend's activities. Those who participate do so at their own risk.

Signature: _____
Date: _____

Inscription:

Nom(s) _____ Nombre de personnes _____
 Adresse _____ Ville _____ Code _____
 Membre du club _____ Téléphone _____

Inscription:

Avant le 28 avril (15\$/personne) _____
 Après le 28 avril (25\$/personne) _____
 Dîner samedi (4\$/personne) _____
 Banquet (18\$/personne) _____
 Dîner dimanche (4\$/personne) _____
 Randonnée en fourgonnette (10\$/personne) _____
 TOTAL _____

S.V.P. veuillez faire votre chèque payable au **Kennebecasis Naturalist Society**.

Les chèques post-datés ne seront PAS acceptés.

S.V.P. envoyez votre formule d'inscription aussitôt que possible. Ceci nous aiderait grandement dans la planification. Vous économiserez aussi et vous serez éligible pour le tirage.

S.V.P. Veuillez indiquer vos choix de randonnées. Certaines (ex. la randonnée en fourgonnette) auront un nombre limitée de participants ou ne seront qu'offert une fois.

Mes (nos) choix de randonnées sont:**Samedi - Lève-tôt**

- A. Observation de canards _____
 B. En arrière du Timberland _____
 C. Marche de Orland _____
 D. Colby Yeomans _____

Samedi - Randonnée Principale

1. Falls Brook _____
 2. Promenade de la forêt _____
 3. Géologie de la surface _____
 4. Cotter Hollow _____
 5. Randonnée en fourgonnette _____
 6. Rivière Kennebecasis/
 Pont suspendu _____

Samedi - Autres randonnées

- I. Royal Garden _____
 II. Musée agricole _____

Dimanche - Lève-tôt

- A. Observation de canards _____
 B. En arrière du Timberland _____
 C. Marche de Orland _____
 D. Colby Yeomans _____

Dimanche - Randonnée Principale

1. Falls Brook _____
 2. Promenade de la forêt _____
 3. Géologie de la surface _____
 4. Cotter Hollow _____
 5. Randonnée en fourgonnette _____
 6. Rivière Kennebecasis/
 Pont suspendu _____

Dimanche - Autres randonnées

- I. Royal Garden _____
 II. Musée agricole _____

S.V.P. envoyer ce formulaire avant le 28 avril, 1995 au:

Kennebecasis Naturalist Society
 Box 1565
 Sussex, NB, E0E 1P0

Le Kennebecasis Naturalist Society et la FNNB ne sont PAS responsable pour des blessures ou accidents ou autre dommages subient durant la participation de ce week-end d'activités. Ceux qui y participent le font à leurs propres risques.

signature: _____

date: _____

Sorties

La Grande Plaine de Miscou

Le 16 octobre le Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne et le Restigouche Naturalists' Club ont tenu une sortie sur l'Île Miscou. Les deux groupes ont rencontré au stationnement de la Grande Plaine.

Après le dîner, les échanges de poignées de mains et les salutations d'usages, Hilaire Chiasson prit le groupe en main pour tenter d'expliquer le phénomène rare de la formation géologique de la Grande Plaine. En plus d'être un site formé de dunes successives établies avec le temps, une telle formation favorise l'établissement de plantes rares pour la province et très uniques pour la Péninsule acadienne.

En premier lieu, on montra comment les plantes de la forêt gagnent du terrain réservé jusqu'alors aux plantes de rivage maritime. Cette interaction fut démontrée par la présence d'**Ammophile à ligule courte** (*Ammophila breviligulata*), d'**Airelle vigne d'Ida** (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*), de **Raisin d'ours** (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) et de **Génévrier rampant** (*Juniperus horizontalis*) qui se défendent tant bien que mal contre les **Épinettes blanches** (*Picea glauca*), des arbustes tel que les **Cornouillers stolonifères** (*Cornus sericea*) et les autres plantes habituelles de nos sous-bois.

Continuant notre sentier, on arrive plus à découvert sur les dunes. À première vue des dunes de sable qui nous apparaissent comme un milieu austère par le climat et hostile à toute forme de vie par sa composition se révèle au contraire comme une oasis pleine de verdure et d'une grande diversité biologique. Après avoir vu des araignées et des champignons assez uniques tels des **Géastres en étoile**, le guide du groupe attira l'attention sur quelques plantes qu'on pouvait voir à cette période de l'année. Parmi celles-ci, on signala la présence de la **Hudsonie tomenteuse** (*Hudsonia tomentosa*), le **Saule tomenteux** (*Salix*

candida), la **Violette à éperon crochu** (*Viola adunca*) qui est décrite comme étant une plante avec une tige, alors que celles qui poussent sur l'Île aux Hérons, comté de Restigouche, et à la Grande Plaine de l'Île Miscou poussent sans tige. C'est ce qui fit dire à Hal Hinds l'auteur du manuel *Flora of New Brunswick* que notre plante est peut-être en train de devenir une autre espèce. C'est déjà là une bonne raison pour conserver ce site pour des études futures sur l'évolution des espèces.

Comme ce site avait été décrit pour la première fois par le naturaliste W.F. Ganong en 1905, comme en étant un très exceptionnel pour tout l'est de l'Amérique du Nord, il y n'en demeure pas moins qu'il y reste encore des choses à découvrir. Lors de notre sortie de groupe nous avons fait allusion de la présence d'une fougère rare que l'on trouve aussi au sud de la province soit: l'**Ophioglosse vulgaire** (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*) appelée aussi Herbe sans couture. On y trouve aussi un arbuste connu qu'à un seul endroit, sur le dessus d'une montagne dans le centre de la province soit l'**Airelle des marécages** (*Vaccinium uliginosum*). De même qu'à l'été 1994 on fit la découverte de trois nouvelles plantes pour ce site dont deux d'entre elles sont nouvelles pour la liste des plantes vasculaires de la Péninsule acadienne. Il s'agit du **Jonc de Vasey** (*Juncus vaseyi*) et du **Carex à long rhizome** (*Carex chordorrhiza*). L'autre plante non moins commune appartient à la famille des marguerites: l'**Épervière à ombelle** (*Hieracium umbellatum*) qu'il ne faut pas confondre avec l'**Épervière du Canada** (*H. canadense*).

Égaré dans nos histoires le temps nous rappela qu'il fallait partir à la découverte de d'autres sites pour observation surtout axée sur l'ornithologie. (*Le Gobe-mouches* 8 (2), nov. 1994)

300 Club Welcomes New Members

Members and friends of the 300 Club of New Brunswick gathered July 10 for a picnic supper at Fundy National Park. Their purpose was to welcome as members three people who recently had observed their 300th species of bird in New Brunswick. Doris Johnston of Saint John saw a Hoary Redpoll in that city in January, Don Gibson of Fredericton ticked the Little Egret at Saint John in May, while Ron Steeves found a Black-billed Cuckoo at his home in Salisbury in June.

Each was presented with the customary 300th-bird-day cake, baked and decorated by Mary Majka with a picture of the appropriate bird. These were eagerly devoured by the assembled participants, but the new members also received a certificate they could take home.



Mary Majka looks on as Don Gibson, Ron Steeves and Doris Johnston hold their 300th bird-day cakes. (Photo: DSC)

Book Reviews

New Brunswick Maps / Cartes Nouveau-Brunswick. Published by N.B. Geographic Information Corporation, P.O. Box 5001, Saint John, NB E2L 4Y9, 1993. \$29.95 (+ \$3 if ordered by mail).

Reviewed by David Christie

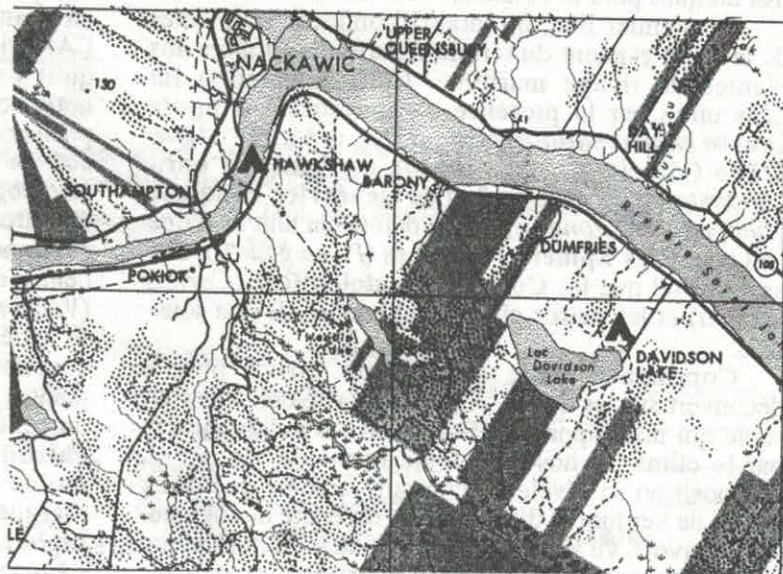
Here's a great tool for exploring our province. The NBGIC's bilingual book of New Brunswick maps is a significant improvement over Maritime Maps Unlimited's *New Brunswick Atlas* and the *In New Brunswick You'll Find It* map books formerly published by the Department of Natural Resources. I wish I had had it while exploring our northern back country for the bird atlas project.

This 25 by 34 cm publication consists of 94 maps printed in 4 colours at a scale of 1:150,000 (2 cm = 3 km), thus intermediate in detail between the 1:50,000 and 1:250,000 maps of the National Topographic Series. A major difference from topo maps is that *NB Maps* does not include contours. But there is lots of detail (from the province's computerized geographical information system) and it's more up-to-date than any other readily available maps. Of course, the landscape continues to change, especially in the interior forested areas, where industry is constructing new roads and cutting new areas each year.

Among the features these maps show are six classes of roads ranging from arterial highways to marginal roads, railroads (active and abandoned), ferries, boundaries (including provincial wildlife reserves, provincial and national parks, military areas, Indian reservations), lighthouses, campgrounds, picnic areas, bogs and marshes, Crown Land, and cut-over areas.

A further useful feature is the 17-page index of geographical names at the back of the book. This enables you to find any community or physical feature that is marked on the maps. It still won't help you find birding areas like Saints Rest Marsh or Wilson Point that aren't marked, or ones that are given a different name, such as Northern Head for the area more frequently referred to as Long Eddy Point or The Whistle.

If you want to get off the numbered highways and discover the rest of the province, get this book. It's available at GIC Registry and Mapping Offices at 14 locations throughout the province or by mail from the address above.



A portion of one map. Darker [green] areas are Crown Land, the spotting represents forest cuts and silvicultural areas.

A Bluebird and Butterfly Garden

The Country Garden is a commercial nursery, but with a difference. Tina and Cam Fenton, the owners, have also established a beautiful garden to which visitors are welcome. The garden consists of a pond, a brook, a great number of perennial and annual flowers, a newly planted orchard and a butterfly garden. To add to the charm of this multi-coloured display is a resident pair of bluebirds! As a matter of fact, that is how it all started.

A battered old bird box on the Fentons' lawn became home for a pair of bluebirds. Tina and Cam gave them a new one the next year, and the summer after that had the pleasure of having the birds again. From then on, each year the guessing starts in spring: which box will they take? Sometimes the birds seem unable to decide, but eventually settle down and produce 3 or 4 young. In the fall of the year there have

been as many as 10 bluebirds around the garden.

Also in the garden there are bird feeders which attract other species, from hummingbirds to sparrows and finches. At times the garden is full of bird life, attracted by the water, the feeders and plants especially cultivated for fruits, seeds and shelter. Parts of the garden were planted specifically for butterflies, with flowers and shrubs attractive to those colourful insects.

Tina's and Cam's idea for a commercial nursery sprang from their love for plants. Now it has grown into interests and love for other things in nature. Their "garden of delight" is open to the public all summer. Just park your car by the Country Garden sign, along Highway 114 midway between The Rocks and Riverside-Albert, and take a stroll. You will be delighted. — MM



Federation News

The 1994 Annual Meeting Weekend

The Club d'ornithologie du Madawaska hosted a weekend "formidable" at Edmundston June 10-12. From birds to bogs to star-gazing at a private observatory, the field trips were interesting and a great opportunity to share experiences with like-minded people from across the province. Several interesting displays lined the entrance hallways of the Musée du Madawaska.

Saturday evening's fine banquet meal included fiddleheads and a local specialty, "la ploye," a thin pancake made from buckwheat and wheat flour.

The banquet speaker was New Brunswick native Rachel Léger, director of live collections at the Biodôme in Montreal. She delivered a lively illustrated talk about the creation of the Biodôme from the former Olympic Velodrome, or cycling stadium.

The Biodôme is a combination of botanical garden, zoo and aquarium. It is a living museum dedicated to environmental sciences. Under its roof it partially recreates four ecosystems: tropical forest, Laurentian forest, the St. Lawrence marine world, and the polar world. Each features living plants and animals typical of that environment. All are maintained by a diverse collection of pumps, filters, aerators, computers, and a lot of imagination.

Thus, in hot, humid conditions, marmosets, sloths, anacondas, hummingbirds, parrots and colourful fishes populate the luxuriant vegetation of the tropical forest, while among the maple, birch, pine and spruce trees of the Laurentian forest live trout, beavers, lynx and ducks. The Laurentian environment cycles with the seasons in the usual way.

The St. Lawrence marine system is centred around an immense 2.5-million-litre tank of salt water, home to hundreds of fish and other marine species, including what Rachel jokingly called "perhaps the largest school of cod in the country." Above the water lives a colony of gannets and kittiwakes. Also included are a tide pool and a salt marsh.

The polar world presents the similar, yet contrasting cold worlds of the Arctic with its puffins and murres and the Antarctic inhabited by penguins.

The Biodôme strives to give its visitors an enjoyable experience, but also to transmit an essential message: the fragility of our planet and the role each of us can play in protecting it. To this end there are docents and various special educational areas and exhibits.

Constructed in less than three years, the Biodôme opened to the public in June 1992. At first some animals hid from visitors but most have adapted and now are reproducing. The Biodôme is a fascinating place to visit during a trip to Montreal.

Ways and Means Committee—NBFN Draw

The Federation's ways and means committee is looking for volunteers. If interested in helping out with ideas for fund-raising projects, contact Jim Brown, Box 1307, Sussex E0E 1P0; tel. (506) 433-3282. Last spring Jim and Diane Allain organized a successful draw with the winners picked at the annual meeting banquet. Prizes were a cellular phone donated by Sounds Fantastic, a watercolour painting of a King Eider by Diane Allain, a wood carving of a Black-capped Chickadee by Jim Edsall, and a \$50 gift certificate from Corn Hill Nurseries. Approximately \$2000 was raised by the draw, a portion of which was returned to local clubs, on the basis of how many tickets each one sold.

Scholarship Fund

In November, the Federation's scholarship fund provided \$200 to assist Alain Clavette in attending a prestigious conference for environmental educators. Held simultaneously at the University of New Hampshire and three other locations across the continent, the conference dealt with global environmental issues. Alain will be available to speak on this topic. There has been little scholarship fund activity in recent years, but this should change if the Federation achieves charitable status.

New Federated Clubs: Restigouche and Grand Manan

During the October meeting of the Federation's board of directors, the Restigouche Naturalists' Club and the Grand Manan Nature Society were accepted as Federated Clubs, bringing to eleven the number of local clubs officially represented.

Federation Emblems

The chickadee logo of the New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists is available as 1-inch lapel pins and 3.5-inch embroidered crests. Pins are available for \$3.50 each (mail orders \$4) from Mike Bamford, 57 Orange St., Apt. #4, Saint John, NB E2L 1M2. Embroidered patches are \$5 each (plus 46¢ postage for 1 to 5) from David Christie, RR 2, Albert, NB E0A 1A0. Window stickers are currently out of stock.

Shown here is a lapel pin. Arching around the green, blue, black and white logo are the words "NATURALISTS FEDERATION NATURALISTES" and below it "NEW BRUNSWICK NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK."



One area of concern that the Federation has recently expressed to the provincial government is the potential impact of a new Trans-Canada Highway route across the Saint John River floodplain at Jemseg. The following information about the highway issue has been provided by the Grand Lake Meadows Action Committee¹:

The Proposed New Trans-Canada Highway: Choosing The Best Route

George Greer

An environmental impact assessment (EIA) is currently underway for the proposed Trans-Canada Highway between Fredericton and Salisbury. The EIA is being done on two separate segments: 1) Fredericton to Coles Island, and 2) Coles Island to Salisbury.

One of the studies² made available by the New Brunswick Department of Transportation compares northern and southern route alternatives (see map), but the EIA is not being carried out on either of these routes, rather on a route from Geary through Coytown, Jemseg, Coles Island and the Canaan River area. This is a combination of parts of the southern route and the northern route.

The Grand Lake Meadows Action Committee is not in favour of locating the 'new' Trans-Canada Highway between Fredericton, Geary, Coytown, Jemseg and Coles Island, for the following reasons:

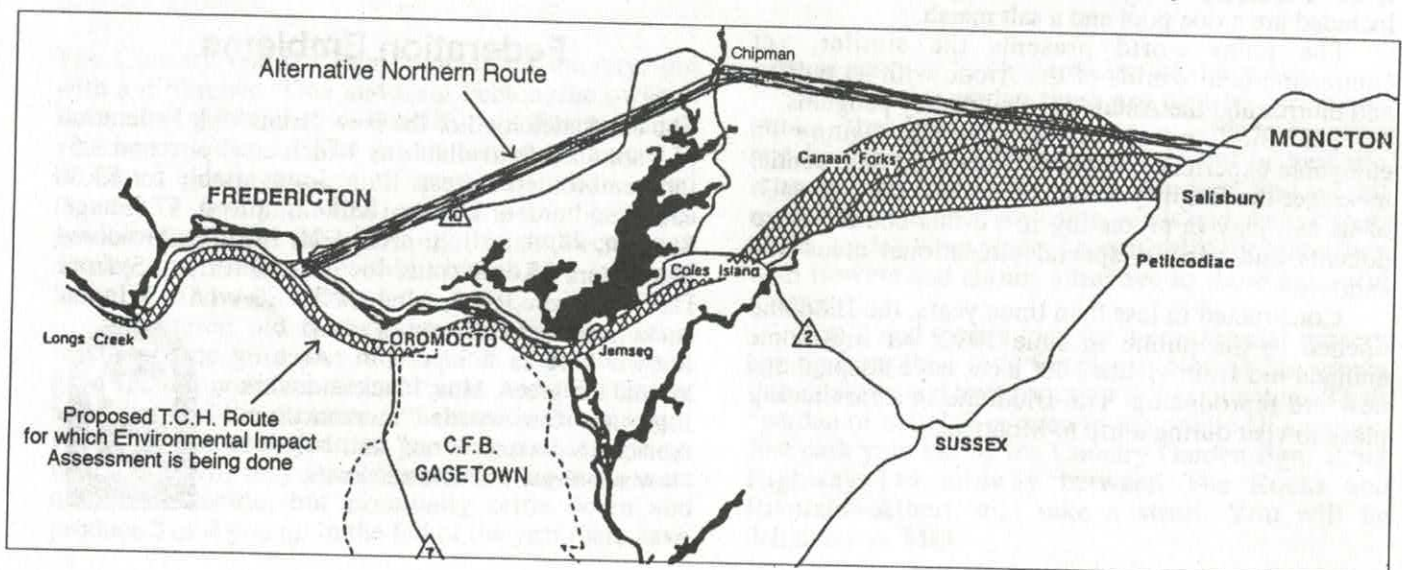
1. The proposed route is through the Grand Lake Meadows, the largest inland wetland in New Brunswick, totalling over 5000 hectares. The area contains land being purchased under the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Agreement for designation as a Provincial Wildlife Management Area.
2. The Grand Lake Meadows area has provincial, national and even international significance for wildlife. It is recognized as an important staging ground for waterfowl, is the only known breeding location for Yellow Rail in Atlantic Canada, and has the greatest concentration and numbers of wintering raptors in the province. Ducks Unlimited projects, active agricultural land of high productivity,

Osprey nests and nesting waterfowl are all located in the area. No doubt the current Trans-Canada highway, located along the north side of the St. John River, will be maintained as a secondary highway. What will be the total area of disturbance and impact of both the new and old stretches of the Trans-Canada Highway on the wetlands and wildlife of the Grand Lake Meadows?

3. The proposed route involves a major crossing over the St. John River and through a designated flood plain. Designated flood plains are subject to the Canada/New Brunswick Flood Damage Reduction Agreement, which states that there should be no development or funding support for any project that is either vulnerable to flooding or which could cause increased flood damage.

In Appendix B³ of the EIA Terms of Reference, it is stated that "while the Federal wetland protection policy of "no net loss of wetland function" (Environment Canada 1991) has not been adopted by New Brunswick wetland protection agencies" (i.e. the Department of Natural Resources and Energy, and Department of the Environment), "it will be used as a guide to develop the context within which to assess the significance of potential impacts to the wetlands". What is the Province's actual position on "no net loss of wetland habitat"?

The is to ensure that the new highway would not be used by a significant amount of local traffic". Traffic volumes along the current Trans-Canada Highway between Longs Creek and Moncton range from a low of 3000 vehicles per day (between Coles



Island and Sussex) to over 16,000 vehicles per day (near Fredericton)². This includes between 775 and 1575 trucks travelling along this segment of highway each day. Why is the proposed route being considered if the most local traffic occurs between Fredericton and Jemseg?

Conclusion

The Grand Lake Meadows Action Committee believes that the northern route, or a modified version thereof (see map), is the best route and should have been selected for the EIA. The Canaan River to Salisbury portion of the proposed route is actually part of this northern route. Highway 10 through to Harcourt could be used in phasing in the northern route during its construction. The northern route would avoid areas subject to annual seasonal flooding and would also help separate through traffic from local traffic, which the provincial government's white paper on highway development⁴ states is "a major consideration in the location of arterial highways in the vicinity of urban centres. No comprehensive comparison of the proposed route, the northern route and the southern route has been done, but a short supplemental report, prepared by the New Brunswick Department of Transportation⁵, indicates that the northern route is the most attractive in terms of cost.

In addition, the northern route is superior to the

southern and proposed routes in terms of its lower environmental impact. However, both the proposed route and the northern route do go through the Coles Island/Canaan River area, an area well known for its large concentrations of White-tailed Deer in the spring. What impact will increased traffic and road construction have on these deer populations?

Our Committee hopes that when final decisions are being made, routes which could have severe environmental impacts will be adopted only if no other options are available.

- 1 The Grand Lake Meadows Action Committee is a group of New Brunswick residents who are striving to help preserve the environmental and ecological integrity of the Grand Lake Meadows and have serious concerns about the potentially deleterious impacts of the new Trans-Canada Highway.
- 2 Functional Planning Study for the Trans-Canada Highway Fredericton to Moncton: North of Grand Lake, South of Grand Lake. Geoplan Consultants, Inc.
- 3 Proposal for a Wetland Study on the Grand Lake Meadows.
- 4 The White Paper: Highways for the Next Century. Government of New Brunswick. Sept. 28, 1993. Page 7.
- 5 Functional Planning Study for the Trans-Canada Highway Fredericton to Moncton. Supplemental Report. New Brunswick Department of Transportation, May 1993.

Club News

Acadian Peninsula Bird List

In May the Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne published a list of the birds known from the Acadian Peninsula. *Les oiseaux de la Péninsule acadienne* is available for \$2 each from the club at C.P. 421, Lamèque, NB E0B 1V0. Heart of this useful booklet, prepared by a 6-person committee, is the 9-page list of 287 species (names in French and English) giving their abundance/frequency of occurrence in each season of the year. The species sequence follows the presentation in Peterson's *Field Guide to the Birds*. Introductory pages provide information on the club, a code of ethics, and definitions (French and English) of the frequency codes and seasons. There is also a map that marks 15 interesting sites for observing birds on the Acadian Peninsula. A page at the end lists new French names recently adopted by an international commission for 47 of the peninsula's birds. All this is enclosed within full-colour covers featuring a Piping Plover and the club logo. Félicitations au CNPA!—DSC



Liste des plantes vasculaires de la Péninsule acadienne

At the founding of the Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne it was decided to begin collecting as many kinds of plants as possible from the peninsula. In March 1994, a preliminary list of the vascular plants known from the peninsula was prepared by Hilaire Chiasson, assisted on the computer by Gérard Benoit. It is based on the club's research and on published reports. The list gives scientific names of more than 700 species grouped by plant family. Only 72 species are marked as not yet represented in the club herbarium.

Nature Art Show and Sale

A highlight of autumn for the Moncton Naturalists' Club was its second annual Nature Art Show and Sale held at Kay's Custom Framing, October 14-30. Sixty works by 17 artists, many of them club members were displayed. These included watercolours, pencil drawings, photographs, carvings, stained glass, cross-stitch and crewel. Riverview artist JoAnn Horton was patron artist, (From MNC Newsletters).

Restigouche Bird Survey

The Restigouche Naturalist Club has begun a project to compile information on birds of the Restigouche over the next 3 years. The objective is to produce a book or booklet that would interest local and visiting nature lovers.

Under the leadership of avid local birder, Mike Lushington, interested members of the club have volunteered to participate in this project. Each will be assigned specific areas to visit regularly. They will keep accurate records of their observations, noting species, numbers, frequency of sightings, feeding habits and anything unusual. The club will also request the assistance of feeder owners.

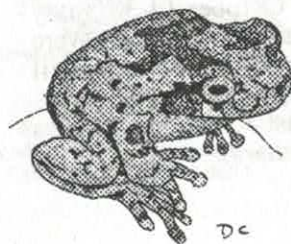
Becoming part of this project should encourage new members to develop their birding skills. If interested in participating contact Mike Lushington, P.O. Box 416, Dalhousie, NB E0K 1B0— Irene Doyle.

Cleanup at Gray Treefrog Site

For many years, ponds in an old gravel pit at Barkers Point in Fredericton were the only site where the Gray Treefrog was known to occur in New Brunswick. Exploration in the past decade has revealed these frogs also at a few locations close to the Maine border, but Barkers Point remains as an isolated breeding population of considerable interest.

Unfortunately, the quality of the site has been threatened by illegal dumping of trash and by drainage from a neighbouring junkyard. Earlier efforts to find a way to protect the Barker's Point habitat were unsuccessful, but a committee, headed by local residents Teresa and Don Vail, is now making progress. About 20 volunteers from the Fredericton Nature Club and The Nature Trust of New Brunswick turned up for a cleanup Oct. 15. Five truckloads of rubbish were removed from roadside, woods and swamp. The City of Fredericton provided the dumptruck and two city workers volunteered their time to help out. Later, city equipment will remove heavy items like car bodies and washing machines.

All the participants in the cleanup agreed that the site should be set aside as a nature preserve and protected from further dumping and degradation. The committee is now negotiating with the city, which owns the site, towards having the area established as a preserve with nature trails and interpretive signs, possibly under the care of The Nature Trust. The proposed name for the site is Hyla Park.—(Adapted from *Refuge*, Dec. 1994, Nature Trust of N.B.)



Irishtown Reservoir Park

The Moncton Naturalists' Club is involved in the planning of a new park in Moncton. City Council approved the designation of a surplus reservoir property, the Irishtown Reservoir, as a wild park. It is being developed in cooperation with a number of local organizations which represent potential park users. The naturalists' club is represented on four of the project's committees. Ten people from Service Canada have been elisted to work mainly on the main hiking trail during the winter. A portable classroom has been acquired to serve as an interpretive centre. The park is located off Route 115 in the northern part of the city—Allan Gregoire

Grand Manan Spring Bird Count

For years I toyed with the idea of a spring bird count on Grand Manan, so when I heard a large contingent of birders were to converge on the island over the Victoria Day weekend, it was impetus enough to turn the dream into reality. The weather, always a major factor in such undertakings, was splendid on the appointed day of May 22, and coincided with a large migration of colorful warblers, finches and orioles—what more could one ask?

Teams fanned out all over the island. The Moncton Naturalists' Club contingent chose to comb White Head Island. Residents of the small island are slowly becoming accustomed to the presence of birders, but the arrival of a large van and two carloads full caused many a head to turn.

At the tally-up that evening at Shorecrest Lodge, where most of the then-weary group were staying, Stuart Tingley revealed that the MNC team had found 83 species. A most impressive feat for a single day of birding!

The grand total within the same 24-km circle as the Christmas Bird Count was 8957 birds of 126 species. The ten most numerous were Common Eider, 2500; Herring Gull, 2300; Tree Swallow, 350; Black-throated Green Warbler, 202; Am. Robin, 180; Yellow Warbler, 165; Bank Swallow and Am. Goldfinch, 160 each; Cliff Swallow, 125; and Common Grackle, 121. [Rarities appear in this issue's "Nature News."] — Brian Dalzell. [Condensed from Moncton Naturalists' Club *Newsletter*, June 1994]

Natural History Workshops

Eagle Hill Field Research Station at Steuben, Maine, will hold 27 week-long natural history seminars during summer, 1995. Subjects include field ornithology, community ecology, black flies, beetles, lichens, aquatic plants, medicinal plants, glacial history, natural dyes. Seminar fee: US\$295. University credits. EHFRS, P.O. Box 9, Steuben, ME 04680-0009; tel. 207-546-2821

Milestones

Conservation Council 25 Years Old

In early 1969, Ken Langmaid, a soil scientist with the Canada Department of Agriculture, began gathering support for establishment of a broad-based conservation organization in New Brunswick. A steering committee began work in April and the Conservation Council of New Brunswick was formed in October with Ken as its first president.

From the beginning, the council made a name for itself. Two early initiatives were a series of newspaper articles publicizing water pollution along the length of the St. John River and a surprisingly well-received conservation teach-in organized for members of the provincial cabinet and legislature.

The Council's activities have played a significant role in encouraging the Province to establish the Department of Environment, an Environmental Council (disbanded during recent cutbacks), environmental impact assessment, the Ecological Reserves Act, etc. It has made representations to countless government committees and hearings.

For ten years, CCNB's activities were carried out entirely by dedicated volunteers working on such issues as the spruce budworm spraying

program, provincial energy policy, pollution control, forest management, the regulation of pesticide use, and recycling. In 1979 the Council hired its first full-

time staff. The following year the Conserver House opened in Fredericton as the Council's permanent home and a demonstration project on residential energy conservation.

More recent activities have concentrated on groundwater resources, sustainable agriculture, environmental issues in the Bay of Fundy, community involvement in forest management, and toxic wastes.

Over the years, the N.B. Federation of Naturalists has frequently supported CCNB's programs or joined forces with it to work together on projects of mutual concern. We congratulate the Council on its excellent work on behalf of our environment and wish it many more years of success. For more information contact CCNB, 180 St. John St., Fredericton, NB E3B 4A9; tel. (506) 458-8747. — DSC



Kindness Club Celebrates 35th Anniversary

December marked the 35th anniversary of the Kindness Club, founded on December 9, 1959, by the late Aida Flemming of Fredericton.

While the programs of the Kindness Club have changed with the times, the educational message is still the same: Be kind to animals and people and respect the environment.

When the Kindness Club was founded there were no other children's clubs whose members were concerned about animals and the environment... Mrs. Flemming always taught that animals and conservation go together—that animals depend on their habitat in order to survive. Domestic animals and humans cause problems for wildlife by destroying their habitat, harassing them or capturing them. Mrs. Flemming was ahead of her time when she stressed these things back in 1959 when few people gave such matters much thought!

Today, thanks to education through television, magazines, books, the Kindness Club, and many other clubs and organizations, people are more aware that animals and humans are suffering abuse around the world. But kindness is needed more than ever.... Our environment has many problems too.

What can you do about it? Think about how you affect the earth. How can you improve your lifestyle to help animals and the environment? Start at home by caring for your pets. Help nature by not harassing wildlife and by using resources such as wood and water very carefully. Educate yourself about animal and environmental problems. Educate others about being kind to animals and respecting our environment.

Start today. YOU can make a difference. Mrs. Aida Flemming did! She educated thousands of people.

For more information contact The Kindness Club, 65 Brunswick St., Fredericton, NB E3B 1G5; tel. (506) 459-3379— Jane Tarn, *Your Kindness Club Letter*, winter 1994.

Maritime Ringlet Release

At the beginning of August, 45 female Maritime Ringlet butterflies (*Coenonympha nepisiquit*) bearing fertilized eggs were captured at two salt marshes at Bathurst and released in similar habitat near Bas-Caraquet. Carried out by entomologist Reg Webster, the project is a trial to see if it's feasible to transplant the butterfly to new locations. The Maritime Ringlet is vulnerable to extinction because its population is confined to just three locations at Bathurst and another in the Gaspé.

Nature News

Spring-Autumn 1994

David Christie



1994 was a year of generally good weather. Spring warmed gradually without any extreme setbacks that are sometimes disastrous to wildlife. Summer was warm and dry, and mild weather extended late into the fall. Many plants and animals flourished, particularly noticeable being the large spruce and fir cone crops and a huge quantity of mountain-ash fruits produced practically throughout the province. Those immense sources of food influenced the occurrence of seed- and fruit-eating birds throughout the fall and winter. An intense storm that accelerated erosion and damaged trees in Bay of Fundy coastal areas Sep. 5 was a noteworthy exception to the good weather. At Grand Manan, many shoreline trees and shrubs turned brown from exposure to salt water.

The account that follows would not be possible without the observations reported in various ways (directly or through the Bird Line or club newsletters) by naturalists throughout the province. A special thanks this time goes to Brian Dalzell who provided a listing of about 2000 observations by himself and others in the Grand Manan archipelago.

The richness of GM's birds and the significance of those observations easily outweigh the reports from any other area of the province and are largely responsible for the predominance of "GM" material throughout this account. Moderate contributions have come from the southeast, Acadian Peninsula, Madawaska, and Saint John. By comparison, the rest of the province is barely represented in the reports at hand.

Consider this an appeal for more information from all areas. You can send it by mail to me at RR #2, Albert EOA 1A0, or e-mail to maryspt@nbnet.nb.ca. December-February observations can be sent right away, March-May ones by the middle of June. Incidentally, all the records received—not just those quoted—are passed on to the New Brunswick Museum for its files on the natural history of the province.

Birds

Concentrating on rarities, deviations from normal occurrence, and large numbers, as this account does, gives a false impression of birds in our province. Common species, such as Ruffed Grouse, Common Raven, and Song Sparrow, are of greater importance, but seldom make the "news." To get a good picture of our common birds, refer to the *Atlas of Breeding Birds of the Maritime Provinces* and to the Christmas Bird Count summary in our next issue. A listing of 1994 spring arrivals and late fall dates of common species is available on request.

A pair of **Common Loons** raised one young on a marsh impoundment at New Horton, near Riverside-Albert. The previous year they had raised two young

(Allan Hanson). The loons probably moved to this unusual habitat from a nearby lake where their traditional nest site is unsuitable because of large fluctuations in water level caused by an unauthorized dam. An agitated pair of loons were reported on another marsh about 5 km away at Germantown (July 30—DMcC).

A few **Northern Fulmars** were reported off Grand Manan in both spring and fall: 6 near the Murr Ledges Apr. 5 (PW), and individuals in the Grand Manan Channel Sep. 7 (PAP) and near the Murr Ledges Sep. 24 (v.o.) and Nov. 26 (PW). **Greater Shearwaters** were numerous at Grand Manan from August through October, the peak number being about 6000 in the Grand Manan Channel Aug. 26, when there were also 250 **Sooty** and "several" **Manx shearwaters** there (JE). Late Greaters were one in the Grand Manan Channel Nov. 12 (SJNC) and two at the Murr Ledges Nov. 26 (PW).

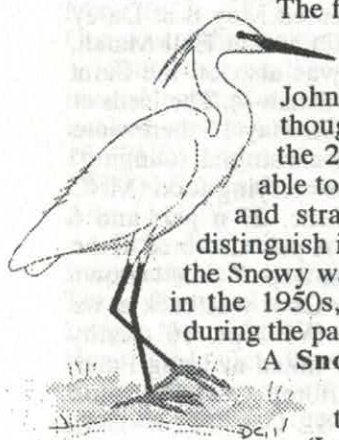
The first **Wilson's Storm-Petrel** of the year was near the Murr Ledges May 28 (PW). A **Leach's Storm-Petrel** came close to shore at Cap Bimet, near Barachois, May 19 1 (SIT) and one was picked up alive on the roadside at Woodward's Cove, GM, Sep. 29 (Cary Nason) and later released (BED).

Two **Northern Gannets** were back at Machias Seal I. Mar. 13 (JS) and the first in the northeast, at Val-Comeau Apr. 1 (RD). During the last half of April they were very numerous in Northumberland Strait (v.o.). Stu Tingley reported a phenomenal flight eastward along that coastline in moderate to strong NW winds Apr. 30. He counted 530 in 37 minutes at Robichaud, saw a swirling flock of 300+ at Murray Corner, counted 3600+ in 80 minutes at Cape Jourimain, near Bayfield, and estimated 3000+ at Baie Verte, where large flocks were swirling and diving and huge numbers sitting on the water. He speculates they may have been feeding on herring. In late fall, there were still 100 in the Grand Manan Channel. Nov. 25 (JGW+).

Two, or three?, stray **Am. White Pelicans** attracted numerous birders to Grand Manan and Saint John. Two were seen at various locations on Grand Manan, Aug. 30 to Sep. 4 (v.o.), then only one through Sep. 7 (PAP). From Sep. 14 to Oct. 2 there was one at Mosquito Cove, Saint John (v.o.). A **Great Cormorant** inland, where they are rare, was at Mactaquac Dam Oct. 22 (FNC newsl.). During the peak of their fall migration, approximately 2500 **Double-crested Cormorants** flew past Mary's Pt. in one hour on Oct. 11 (DSC) and 700 the following morning (Mike Majka). A flock of 600 passed over Bancroft Pt. Oct. 11 (BED).

An early **Great Egret** flew past Pt Lepreau Mar. 31 (DMcC). At Grand Manan reports from several locations from Apr. 11 into the first week of May

(BED+) may have been of just one bird. There was one at Back Bay June 1-2 (382-DUCK). In the north, where this species is seldom seen, one was at Petite-Lamèque June 21 (Réal Chiasson) and one at Atholville for more than two weeks from Aug. 16 (Margaret Gallant, Irene Doyle+).



The first **Little Egret** ever reported in New Brunswick was at Saints Rest Marsh, Saint John May 27-29 (v.o.). It was thought to be a Snowy Egret until the 28th, when Cecil Johnston was able to see the two long crest feathers and straight scapular plumes which distinguish it. This Eurasian counterpart of the Snowy was first found in North America in the 1950s, but most reports have been during the past decade.

A **Snowy Egret** was fishing for minnows in a small pond near the Cape Enrage Road Apr. 1-4 (Lois Beck+), there was one at Quaco Apr. 15 (Ted Sears), one at Castalia Marsh Apr. 26 (AC, OL) and May 11-19 (SIT, BED), and one at Chance Harbour July 25 (Roland Bosence). A **Little Blue Heron** was at Shediack June 10 (DD) and an adult at Daley Creek Marsh, Mary's Pt., for a couple of weeks from June 26 (Rick Elliott, Barb Curlew+). A **Tricolored Heron** in breeding plumage was at Waterside May 10-11 (RD, Barb Curlew) and one at Chance Harbour from May 14 till about the beginning of June (382-DUCK). All the reports of **Green Heron** are from Grand Manan May 3-27 (v.o.), save one at Edmundston June 1+ (Robert Emond+).

A **Glossy Ibis** at Chance Harbour Apr. 16 (*vide* JGW) may have been the same one that stayed at Saints Rest Marsh from Apr. 20 till about the third week of May (v.o.) Interestingly, this bird was first reported by Ron Steeves who identified it on a TV news feature and sped off the next morning to add it to his life list "in the flesh".

The North American population of **Mute Swans** is currently expanding. On the heels of the 1993 reports in New Brunswick, one appeared at Bathurst Basin July 1 (Mary Gauthier+). Intriguingly, on June 27 three swans were seen flying down the Kennebecasis River near Hampton (Gill Malins). They could not be identified but were thought not to be Mute Swans.

A considerable number of **Snow Geese** were reported during the spring: Saints Rest Apr. 3 (4 flying over—JGW) and from Apr. 21 through May 12 (imm.—Mike Antle+); Lower Jemseg Apr. 4+ (2—PAP); Red Head Marsh, Saint John, Apr. 8+ (imm.—SIT); Millidgeville (8—Ron Arseneault) and Grand Harbour (AS) Apr. 9; Inkerman Apr. 19 (ad.—Jean-Guy Robichaud & André Robichaud); Bancroft Pt., GM, Apr. 21 (BED); 37 at Corn Hill and 68 at Middleton May 3 (JB); St-Basile May 6 (a large number—GT), and Baie-du-Petit-Pokemouche May 5-6 (ad.—RD). Two at Tracadie May 1-2 (RD & Julien Daigle) were dark morph "**Blue Geese**".

The first 15 **Brant** had already returned to Bancroft Pt. Feb 20 (BED). 1500 were there Mar. 9 and 2500 Mar. 19-20 (BED). On the 20th there were almost 2000 around White Head I. (BED). A month later Brant were concentrated in Grand Harbour, where 3000 were reported Apr. 20 (Ricky Cook) and 4500 Apr. 26 (BED). In the northeast the first, 48, were at Val-Comeau Apr. 1 (RD). Far from the sea were 2 at St-Basile Apr. 13 (GT).

"Many" **Shovelers** and **Gadwalls** were reported at the Middle Sackville SL in the first two weeks of May (382-DUCK and MNC info line). **Gadwall** is seen frequently along the coast, but one also reached Madawaska, being seen May 8 at St-Basile (GC). The Acadian Peninsula is the best place to see **Lesser Scaup**. Robert Doiron reports seeing them at many places, beginning Apr. 5 at Sheila and peaking May 5 and 20, with about 150 on the Tracadie SL. On the latter date about 350 **Greater Scaup** were also there (RD). Three **Lessers** were still on the Port Elgin SL June 2 (SIT). Autumn **Lessers** included ones at Great Pond, GM, Oct. 14 (BED), Cape Jourmain Nov. 4 (8—SIT), and the mouth of Turtle Creek, Coverdale, in late October (many—382-DUCK).

Males of the **Eurasian** subspecies of **Green-winged Teal** were identified at Lower Jemseg Apr. 4+ (PAP), Mary's Pt. Apr. 13 (DSC), Inkerman Apr. 21 to the first week of May (up to 2—Gérard Benoit+), and Halls Creek Marsh, Moncton, Apr. 25 (RD). **Eurasian Wigeon** were at Lower Jemseg Apr. 15 (MC), Hillsborough, first at the DU marsh, later on the sewage lagoon, from June 4 into July (v.o.), Neguac PP June 5 (RD), Great Pond Oct. 8 (SS & Barb Cowan), and Cape Jourmain NWA Nov. 4 (female or imm. male—SIT & OL).

Two male **Redheads** attracted many birders during a long stay at the Buctouche SL from June 13 through the end of July (Gerry Mazerolle+). One was diving with scaup & scoters at Ross I., GM, Oct. 23 (BED). Adult male **King Eiders** were found at Val-Comeau Mar. 25, Apr. 1 & 17 (2 on the last date—RD), Anthony's Cove, Saint John, Mar. 27 (CLJ), Waterside Apr. 16 (AC), and Miscou LH May 4 (SIT & RS). A **Common Eider** appeared inland at St-Basile May 6 (GT).

The formerly declining **Harlequin Duck** seems to be gradually increasing its numbers. They were reported at Anthony's Cove for a couple of weeks from Mar. 27 (2—CLJ+), Machias Seal I. Apr. 5-May 7 (1, but 5 were present all winter—JS), off Route 530, S of Buctouche, Apr. 24 (2—Sharon Northorp), Maces Bay June 5 (JGW), Miscou LH July 24 (2—RD) increasing to 7 in mid-September (382-DUCK), and Machias Seal I. Oct. 12-Nov. 17 (JS).

An out-of-season **Oldsquaw**, a male in full breeding plumage, was at Maces Bay June 5 (SIT). On Nov. 17 "there was an incredible flock strung out for what seemed like miles" off Pt. Escuminac; "at one point most of the birds got up and flew... farther up into Miramichi Bay; this line took about 15 minutes to pass, allowing me to get a fairly accurate count" of 11,000+ (SIT). Such a large flock of

Oldsquaw has never been reported in New Brunswick before.

Barrow's Goldeneye reports included Val-Comeau Apr. 1-4 (12—RD), Shediak Bridge Apr. 6 (6—SIT), Sheila Apr. 15 (Bernadette Hébert & Edith Robichaud), and Tracadie Apr. 28 (RD). In the fall a male **goldeneye hybrid** at Shediak Bridge Nov. 25 had face marking, head shape and back pattern intermediate between Barrow's and Common goldeneyes.

In spring **Ruddy Duck** was reported at the Buctouche SL Apr. 22-24 (Gerry Mazerolle+) and the Bell Marsh, Moncton, Apr. 24 through the end of June (up to 3 present in mid May—v.o.). As usual there were more of them in the fall: Great Pond and Long Pond, GM, Oct. 8-Nov. 4 (1-3—v.o.), Springhill, near Fredericton, Oct. 10 (FNC newsl.), at the mouth of Turtle Creek Oct. 16 (2—SIT), Sackville WP in the third week of October (2—382-DUCK), Saint John West SL Oct. 29 into November (up to 7—Mike Bamford+), Cap-Brûlé SL Nov. 4-5 (SIT+)

A **Black Vulture** seen at Miscou I. July 21 (Gary Burson) may have been the one that later frequented the St-Léolin dump from Nov. 10 into December (v.o.). This is close to Grande-Anse where there was one in November and December 1992. **Turkey Vultures** continue to increase each spring. From April 1 to May 14 there were fifteen reports from the southernmost counties and two from the Acadian Peninsula. The first was circling with Red-tails at Shepody, near Riverside-Albert, Apr. 1 (Ron Léger, OL), the next at Inkerman Apr. 11 (Roland & Bernise Robichaud). Six reports were from Grand Manan where 5 birds circling over Eel Lake May 11 seemed to want to leave the island (SIT). Less usual summer TV's were inland at Mactaquac June 12 (Leona Keenan), Tracy July 24 (Phil Hansen), and Central Blissville Aug. 27 (imm.—SS).

Cooper's Hawk is rare here and needs to be identified with caution. Reports received were of one at Fredericton Apr. 15 (JA), one at Southwest Head, GM, May 1 (Monte Brigham), and a probable there Sep. 25 (imm.; "rounded tail with conspicuous white terminal band, but would have liked to have seen it longer"—DSC)

Broad-winged Hawks were conspicuous at Park HQ, FNP, Sep. 15 when a kettle of 30 were seen (AC), and the next day when a large group of 127 were circling and moving to the SW over Alma. That group included at least some **Red-tailed Hawks** (Doreen Rossiter). In the spring 36 Red-tailed were seen passing eastwards at New Horton during 2 hours on the afternoon of Apr. 5 (SIT). A few other raptors were also migrating there.

Three reports were received of **Golden Eagle**: Dorchester Cape Aug. 16 (ad.—Janos Olah+), Deer I. on the weekend of August 27-28 (382-DUCK), and Hartland Sep. 27 (adult or nearly adult—Diane Allain).

Not so long ago, the **Merlin** was a very rare breeder in New Brunswick, but it is currently widespread in small numbers. Summer records this year included individuals on the Oak Hill BBS June 4

(Tracey Dean) and the Richibucto BBS July 1 (SIT), and successful breeding at Park HQ, FNP, (RJW). Re-established **Peregrine Falcons** continued to do well at their usual Bay of Fundy breeding sites. In other areas, one was at Knightville Apr. 16 (AC, OL) and one at Miscou LH Oct. 4 (imm.—SIT)

Common Moorhens appeared May 8 at Daley Creek Marsh, Mary's Pt., (DSC) and at Bell Marsh, Moncton (2—DD, SIT). One was also on the Saint John West SL May 17 (Peter Wilshaw+). The birds at Bell Marsh remained to breed. On May 16 there were three together, "1 displaying, 1 chasing, 1 lounging" (SIT), about June 19-20 one was carrying food (MNC RBA), and sometime before June. 27 a pair and 6 chicks were seen (382-DUCK). A pair also bred at the New Horton Marsh, being seen Sep. 7 4 3/4-grown young (Al Hanson). **American Coot** was back at its breeding site in the Sackville WP Apr. 16 (Kathy Popma). In the fall coots were noted at Long Pond, GM, Oct. 8-23 (AS+), Fredericton Oct. 29 (Scott Makepeace), Saint John West SL Oct. 29 (3—CG), and Bayfield Nov. 4 (SIT).

A **Sandhill Crane** was reported at Nauwigewauk Apr. 23 (fide JGW) and one at Petit-Shippagan, LI, May 5 (RD). Three reports in the fall could have been of the same bird, but who knows. On Sep. 2 at Herring Cove, FNP, one flew high overhead to the NE (Gordon Pringle). Sep. 14 one was flying NE at Mary's Pt. (Mike Majka), and Oct. 2 there was one in a harvested corn field at Colpitts Sett. (Connie Colpitts+)

After two successive years of failure, the single pair of **Piping Plovers** nesting on the Bay of Fundy hatched at least two chicks at Waterside July 10 (Yves Poussart & Mariette Tarte). Fifteen **Sanderlings** on Long Pond Beach, GM, Mar. 18 & 20 (BED) had probably wintered there, whereas ones during mid and late May (v.o.) may have been northbound migrants.

Two **Western Sandpipers** were reported, the first at Prangle Pt., White Head I., Aug. 23 (BED), the other at Mary's Pt. Sep. 4 & 9 (very long-billed—DSC, JE). There was also a report from an unknown visitor at Mary's Pt. Aug. 14. The only **Stilt Sandpiper** reported was seen at Cap-des-Caissie the weekend of Sep. 10-11 (Gilles Daigle). A female **Ruff** at Tracadie Aug. 9+ (RD+). **Long-billed Dowitcher** was reported only at the Sackville WP, which has been a reliable location for it the last couple of years. From 1 to 5 were there from Aug. 10 to Oct. 2 (v.o.).

Several **Baird's Sandpiper** occurred: Tracadie Aug. 9 (2—RD); Castalia Marsh Aug. 10-17 (2—v.o.), late August (3—382-DUCK), Sep. 11 (SIT), and Oct. 1 (DG+); Mary's Pt. Aug. 13-15 (v.o.), Wilson Pt. Aug. 22 (3—RD), White Head I. Aug. 22 (BED), Long Pond Beach late August-Sep. 3 (BED), Pte-à-Bouveau, near Tracadie, and Wilson Pt., MI, late August (382-DUCK). **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** were found at Pte-à-Bouveau Aug. 20-22 (RD), Tracadie Aug. 20 (4—RD), Mary's Pt. Aug. 19 (DSC), Seal Cove Aug. 27 (Tony Beck), Long Pond Beach Aug. 29-31 (2-1—Paul Jones), Daley Creek Marsh Sep. 9 (JE), Saints Rest about the beginning of September (382-DUCK).

Wilson's Phalarope were found in several areas during the spring: Sheffield Apr. 24 (David Lounsbury), Jemseg May 7 (4—MC), Penobscus May 10 (2—JB), Middle Sackville SL May 11 (13—DD), Caraquet SL May 15+ (MD), peaking at 5 on May 21 (RD), St-Louis-de-Kent SL mid May to May 26 (5—SIT), and Gagetown May 28 (AG, JG). One was at the Sackville WP Aug. 10-13 (RJW+).

Our other phalaropes were noted mainly in their normal habitat at sea off Grand Manan but a **Red-necked** was on a small pond there at Bancroft Pt. Sep. 10 (BED) and a **Red** roosting on the beach with 150,000 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** at Johnson Mills Aug. 11 (RJW+).

Both Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers were seen frequently near Grand Manan during fall migration. Three **Pomarine**s were still present at the Murr Ledges Nov. 14 (PW) and a **Parasitic Jaeger** off Fish Head, GM, Oct. 22 (DSC). Much more intriguing were several reports of skuas. Two species are possible here, Great Skua which breeds in the Northern Hemisphere and South Polar Skua which breeds in the Antarctic; neither has been adequately documented in New Brunswick. A **skua** near Gannet Rock Sep. 24 (v.o.) and 2 in the Grand Manan Channel Sep. 28 (Mike Majka & a birder from Florida) could not be identified to species. Two others were reported as **Great Skuas**, an immature 4 miles southeast of Long I., GM, Sep. 16 (DB) and one off the South Grand Manan Banks Oct. 8 (William Townsend+).

Laughing Gulls are seen annually in the Grand Manan area, but one strayed to Cap Bimet May 18 (RAM). In the archipelago, they were seen at Machias Seal I. May 28 (JS), Castalia Marsh June 4 (SIT+), and at Long Eddy Pt. (= The Whistle) Aug. 22 (juv.—JE). Two **Little Gulls** were at the Tracadie SL Aug. 26 (RD). An adult at Long Eddy Pt. Sep. 24-28, Oct. 10 and 23 (v.o.) was accompanied by a juvenile Oct. 10 (AS). In the Cap Bimet area **Common Black-headed Gulls** were seen Apr. 3 (a pair—SIT), May 14 (pair displaying some courtship behaviour—SIT) and 19 (Nelson Poirier). Watch for nesting attempts. This species was also reported at Courtenay Bay, Saint John, May 14 (nearly ad.—JGW) and May 20 (1st summer—SIT).

Jim Wilson's gull discovery for this period was a **Mew Gull** of the European race *L. c. canus*, at the Saint John West SL Apr. 2-22 (JGW+). A bird in third winter or adult winter plumage with a pronounced ring on bill, it could easily have been passed over as a Ring-billed Gull by a less attentive observer. Mew Gull was previously represented in New Brunswick by one record each of the western North American and of the European subspecies.

There was a noteworthy concentration of 8000+ **Herring Gulls** at Robichaud Sep. 17 (SIT). On the flats were about 3000, while almost 100 per minute passed between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. There were about 5% Great Black-backs and very few Ring-bills.

First-summer, non-breeding **Iceland Gulls** remain here long after the adults have returned to the Arctic, for example: Dorchester Cape-Johnson Mills May 17

(12—Reid McManus), Shippagan May 20 (150; 10 still present June 8—RD), and Pt. Escuminac May 29 (SIT). In the fall a young bird was back at Shippagan Harbour Oct. 4 (SIT). Young **Glaucous Gulls** lingered to May 6 at Shippagan (2—RD), May 16 at Robichaud (2—SIT), and May 29 at Pt. Escuminac (2—SIT). A second-year Glaucous was early at Bancroft Pt. Oct. 24 (BED).

A record number of **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were reported during the spring. Moncton's adult was back on the Petitcodiac River from Apr. 7 into at least the second week of May (SIT+). Once, in the second week of April, it was accompanied by a 3rd-year bird (382-DUCK). Other spring Lesser Black-backs were at Shediac Apr. 11 (ad.—SIT), Hammond River, Quispamsis, Apr. 24 (JGW), Sheffield in early May (1—382-DUCK), Camobello I. May 2 Charles Dorchester), Shippagan May 6 (ad.—RD); Robichaud (1), Cap-Pelé (1), and Murray Corner (2), all on May 7 (2 ad., 2 3rd-summer—SIT); Castalia Marsh May 10 (ad.—Mark Libby), Sheffield-Jemseg May 18 (4—JGW), Pt. Escuminac May 29 (1st-summer & 2nd-summer—SIT), Cap Bimet June 12 (1st-summer—SIT). In fall, the Moncton bird was first at the old landfill site Oct. 16 (SIT), but then appeared regularly all fall behind Cy's Restaurant (v.o.). Other adults were seen at Southwest Head, GM, Sep. 11 (DG) and Robichaud Sep. 17 (SIT).

Sabine's Gull, very rarely seen here, was found in the Grand Manan Channel Aug. 20 (juv.—JE) and at Long Eddy Pt., GM, Oct. 29 (ad.—AS).

Caspian Terns were seen at Castalia Marsh May 12 (SIT), Courtenay Bay May 14-15 (1-7—CLJ, DG), Robichaud May 25 (SIT) and Sep. 21 (DD), and Cape Jourimain Oct. 6 (SIT). The rarest terns were a **Gull-billed** reported from the PEI ferry off Cape Tormentine July 28 (*vide* Blake Maybank) and 3 **Royal Terns** seen from a whale-watching boat near North Head Aug. 26 (JE).

A pair of **Roseate Terns** nested again at Machias Seal I. (*vide* JE). An appalling act of vandalism, the June shooting of about 500 **Common Terns** at New Brunswick's largest colony, the Tern Islands in Kouchibouguac National Park, was widely covered in the news media. In addition, many young must have perished because of the destruction of these adults.

The usual numbers of **Common Murres** summered at Machias Seal I. beginning May 14 (12—JS). This year, for the first time, proof of nesting on the island was obtained with the finding of a nest and egg July 14 and later a second egg. Both rolled into rain pools and failed to hatch (*vide* Stephen Kress). An apparently healthy **Thick-billed Murre** landed close to shore in Cumberland Basin at Aulac Nov. 22 1 (SIT, RD). Its occurrence so far up the bay was probably the result of strong S winds the previous night.

The expanding outbreak of the **Forest Tent Caterpillar** in southern N.B. brought numerous **Black-billed Cuckoos**, which feed heavily on the larvae. The earliest at Eel Brook, GM, May 27 (PAP), was followed by reports at Fredericton (JA) and Dieppe (Oscar Duguay) June 7, Salisbury June 16 (RS) and

Coteau Road, LI, June 25 (Jude Larocque). There were three autumn observations on Grand Manan: Anchorage Park Sep. 16 (DB), White Head I. Sep. 25 (SIT), and Long Eddy Pt. Sep. 26-29 (SIT+). It was a low fall for **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** vagrants, which were found only at Southwest Head Sep. 30-Oct. 1 (DG+) and Woodward's Cove Oct. 7 (AS.)

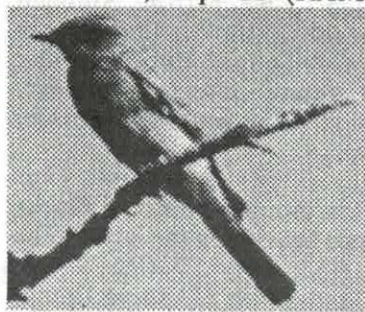
Great Horned Owls nested in an Osprey nest by a road at Bayswater, offering an excellent view of the feathered owlets in the nest in late April and May (v.o.). The previous year the tree top had broken while the young **Ospreys** were in the nest. Local citizens cared for the young while a box was constructed and placed in the tree to hold the nest and young. After the box was placed sufficiently high, the adult Ospreys resumed feeding their young and successfully raised them (*vide* JT).

A migrant **N. Saw-whet Owl** at Machias Seal I. May 29 (JS, Jason Hudson) was an unusual record for that location.

Although there were earlier ones, May 15 seems to have been the day for **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** arrivals in southern N.B.: Saint John by May 9 (382-DUCK), Seal Cove May 11 (Yves Cormier); Harrington Cove, GM, (Maude Hunter), Bancroft Pt. (BED), Mary's Pt. (DSC), Shepody (T&CF), and Riverview (JT), all on May 15, Oakland May 21 (A&DC), and Inkerman May 22 (Lucie Robichaud). The latest were at Nictau Sep. 19 (Wilma Miller), Alma Sep. 26 (2—Doreen Rossiter) and Stanley Beach, GM, Sep. 26 (SIT). A **Rufous Hummingbird** was apparently reported at Stanley, York Co., around mid August (382-DUCK), but I have no further details.

Just two **Red-headed Woodpeckers**, both on Grand Manan, were reported during the fall: Southern Head Beach, GM, Oct. 11 (DG, MC) and North Head about Oct. 22 (Nellie Huckins). A **Red-bellied Woodpecker** was at Bushville, near Chatham Head, from Nov. 18 into the winter (Frank & Irma Powers). **Black-backed Woodpeckers** were evidently on the move along the Bay of Fundy with 5 reports at Grand Manan during Sep. 27 to Oct. 23 (v.o.).

A **Say's Phoebe**, flycatching from dead tree-tops, roadside weeds, and seaweed-covered rocks, near the lighthouse on White Head I. Sep. 15 (photographed—SIT+) was just the third report of this western flycatcher in New Brunswick. Equally rare was an **Ash-throated Fly-catcher** at Fredericton Nov. 20 (MC). A **Western Kingbird** at Boudreau, near Bara-chois, Sep. 18 (RAM+) had probably been present since Sept. 16.



Say's Phoebe, White Head, Sep. 1994 (Photo: Stu Tingley)

Five reports on Grand Manan during November were of at least two birds: Thoroughfare Road Nov. 3 (BED), Woodward's Cove Nov. 12-13 (BED), Swallowtail Road Nov. 13 (RAM), and Castalia Nov. 27

(AS). A spectacular **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** stayed around a farm at Rexton from Oct. 29 to Nov. 7 (Bill Martin+).

A **Willow Flycatcher** was singing at North Head June 5 (SIT) and another at Cape Jourimain June 11 (Connie Colpitts).

Very early reports of **Eastern Kingbird** on Grand Manan could conceivably have been of the same bird: Seal Cove Apr. 10 (Peter & Carmen Roberts), Jack Tars Cove Apr. 16 (DB), Long Pond-Great Pond Apr. 26 & 30 (AC, OL; BED). More normal dates were May 11 at Seal Cove (Yves Cormier) and May 12 at Castalia Marsh (3—BED). The first on the Acadian Peninsula was not until May 28 at Tracadie (MD).

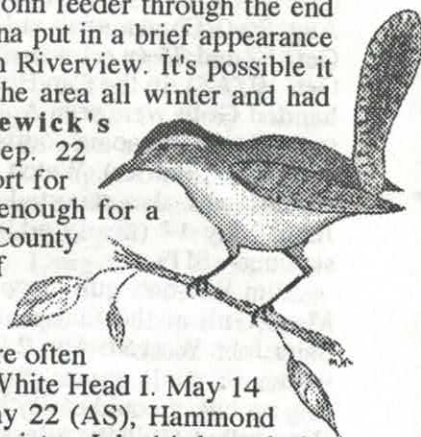
A **Tree Swallow** was also early at Maces Bay Apr. 1 (CLJ). More typical were appearances at Bancroft Pt. (3—BED) and Ragged Pt., GM, (Sandra Ellis) Apr. 12, the Moncton area (MNC info line) and Inkerman (Édith Robichaud) Apr. 14, and Oakland Apr. 26 (A&DC). Some young swallows got turned around and appeared in November. A **Tree Swallow** was at New Horton Nov. 4 (DSC & Mary Majka) and from one to two **Barn Swallows** in Alma Nov. 13-16 (David Clark, Anne Bardou+).

In the class of "weird and wonderful", was what at first seemed to be "a raven with a white breast and collar" present for a few days in July at Pigeon Hill (*vide* Rose-Aline Chiasson). Later, the same or a very similar bird, displaying the same behaviour, was reported at Miminegash, PEI (*vide* SIT). The descriptions seem to rule out a partly albino crow or raven and point to the **Pied Crow**, *Corvus albus*, a species found in Africa, south of the Sahara. Conventional wisdom suggests it must have escaped from captivity somewhere in North America.

Dorothy Peterson's wintering **Carolina Wren** was still present at her Saint John feeder through the end of March. Another Carolina put in a brief appearance Mar. 28 at John Loch's in Riverview. It's possible it had been somewhere in the area all winter and had begun to wander. A **Bewick's Wren** at Mary's Pt. Sep. 22 (DSC+) was the first report for N.B. It stayed just long enough for a few people from Albert County and Moncton to see it. Of annual occurrence, but still rare here, **House Wrens**, were reported more often than usually: Gull Cove, White Head I. May 14 (SIT), Eel Lake, GM, May 22 (AS), Hammond River July 7 (JGW), Fredericton July 14 through the end of the month 2 (a pair—SS), St. Martins Sep. 26-30 (DD), Deep Cove Sep. 30 (DG+).

Marsh Wrens were presumably found in many impounded cat-tail marshes during the summer. The Grays Brook DU marsh at Hillsborough was one of those places (382-DUCK). Two Marsh Wrens turned up on Gannet Rock, one found dead Sep. 8 and one alive Sep. 20 (RM). A late one was at Whale Cove Pond, GM, Nov. 19 & 26 (AS; JGW+).

Stu Tingley didn't encounter quite as heavy songbird migration on his fall trips to Miscou I. as in



1993, but **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** (220) and **White-throated Sparrows** (270) were particularly numerous Oct. 4. He says that "there must have been tens of thousands of kinglets and many thousands of white-throats on the island." Among 25 **White-crowned Sparrows** there that day was a perfectly marked adult "**Gambel's White-crown**" (SIT), a westerner very rarely seen in New Brunswick.

Blue-gray Gnatcatchers have been increasingly frequent in recent years. There were 10 reports of 9 birds during the spring, the first May 6 at Eel Lake, GM (AS) and about the same time at Moncton (OL), the last at Caraquet May 21 (BH). Another in the north was at Petite-Rivière-de-l'île May 8 (Christian Haché). Unusual in mid-summer was a female at Mary's Pt. July 5 (DSC). In the fall there were more than 25 reports of perhaps 20 to 30 birds between Aug. 17 and Nov. 4. All were in coastal locations and, with the exception of 2 at Pt. Escuminac Oct. 3 (SIT) and one at Pte-à-Bouleau Nov. 2 (RD), in the southern third of the province. These included 3 at Southwest Head Sep. 30 (DG+) and 2 at Swallowtail Light, GM, Oct. 1 (SIT+).

A very rare spring **Northern Wheatear** was near Ryan's Beach, Kouchibouguac Nat'l Park, May 23-30 (AC+). In the fall one appeared at Saints Rest Sep. 4-7 (Aldei Robichaud+).

Eastern Bluebirds were widely reported, from Apr. 1 (New Horton—David Clark, Shirley Hunt) to Nov. 12 (probably near Pennfield—SJNC). Despite their increasing numbers in recent years, few are taking advantage of the nest boxes placed for them. In club nestbox projects, one of 100 boxes (Kennebecasis Naturalists Society), one of 44 (MNC) and none of 36 (Ami(e)s de la Nature) were occupied by bluebirds in 1994. Fall gatherings in Albert County included 10 at Dawson Sett. in the second week of September (Dale Gaskin), 6 at Elgin about that time (Maurice Steeves), and 10 at Shepody in early October (TCF).

No additional details have been supplied for the report of a **Varied Thrush** at Little Dark Harbour, GM, Sep. 23 (Seth Benz), a very unusual time of the year for this west coast visitor.

There were the usual number of **Northern Mockingbird** reports mainly in May and September-October. During the summer, a family of 5 appeared on John Candy's lawn in Sussex. **Brown Thrashers** were more reported than in most recent years, with from 6 to 9 in the Grand Manan archipelago May 11-26. There was one at Moncton for several days beginning May 8 (DD+), another at St-Joseph-de-Madawaska May 16 (DC, GC). During the summer this species was reported on the Oak Hill (TD) and Lac Baker (GT) Breeding Bird Surveys and at Pennfield (JGW). The only fall records seem to have been at Gannet Rock Sep. 8 (RM) and Machias Seal I. Sep. 21 (JS).

American Pipits seemed more numerous in the fall than for a few years. These included 15 arriving from the east at White Head I. Sep. 16 (BED) and 50-100 on the mud of the drained Daley Creek marsh at Mary's Pt. Sep. 23 (JT).

The last of the winter's flight of **Bohemian Waxwings** were at Lamèque Apr. 12 (9—Réjean Ferron), Edmundston Apr. 15 (50—GT), Fredericton Apr. 16 (JA) and a very late one at Wilson Pt. Rd., MI May 22 1 (RD). Very few appeared in the fall, the forerunners being at St-Hilaire Oct. 9 (Simon Bouchard), Shediac Nov. 5 (MNC), and Rexton Nov. 6 (19—Rob & Gail Walker). The late fall of 1994 was characterized much more by an abundance of **Cedar Waxwings** that remained here to feed on the abundant mountain-ash fruits.

A very rare **Yellow-throated Vireo** was singing at Castalia May 22 (v.o.) and another at Seal Cove May 28 (RD). **Warbling Vireos** were a feature of several of the outings during the NBFN annual meeting weekend in Madawaska County June 11-12 (v.o.);

Blue-winged Warblers again put in a good show. There was one in spring at the Anchorage PP May 21-22 (v.o.) and five in the fall: Net Pt., GM, Aug. 17 (JGW), Pt Escuminac Sep. 1 (RD, OL), Caraquet SL Sep. 3 (RD), near Pat's Cove, GM, Sep. 11 (SIT+), and Southern Head Beach, GM, Sep. 30 (DG, DLM). There was also a report from Edmundston June 13 (Bert & Colette Lavoie). A **Golden-winged Warbler** was at White Head I. May 21 & 23 (JE; DLM) and another at Pt. Lepreau Oct. 12 (DMcC).

An unusual spring **Orange-crowned Warbler** was reported at the Caraquet SL May 29 (MD). The fall brought the greatest number of reports we have ever had: Long Eddy Pt. Sep. 11 (BED), Whistle Road Sep. 25 (AS), Cape Jourmain NWA Oct. 6 (2—SIT), Matthew's Head, FNP, Oct. 8 (2—SIT), Kingsclear Oct. 10 (DG), Bancroft Pt. Oct. 11 (BED), Shediac Oct. 12 (DD), Dock Road, North Head, Oct. 15 (SIT, RS), Mary's Pt. Oct. 24-25 (2—DSC & Majkas; Rick Elliott), Alma Oct. 25 (SIT+), Aulac Nov. 22 (SIT, RD), Inkerman Nov. 28 (André Robichaud). With recognizable photos and video footage obtained in two instances, the occurrence of Orange-crowned Warbler in New Brunswick no longer is based only on sight records.

A few **Yellow-rumped Warblers** returned along the Bay of Fundy in mid-April: Whistle Road Apr. 15 (AS), Cape Enrage Apr. 16 (DSC), Park HQ, FNP, Apr. 16 (RJW), Mary's Pt. Apr. 17 (OL). They became more numerous and widespread Apr. 23-30, when they reached Bas-Caraquet (Apr. 26—Aline Gionet) and Oakland (Apr. 30—A&DC). On the Acadian Peninsula, after a rather slow movement during the first 3 weeks of May they became abundant, and an unprecedented concentration was attracted by enormous quantities of flies at the Caraquet SL: 3000+ on May 22 and 10,000+ May 23 (RD).

Yet another new bird for New Brunswick was discovered (and photographed) by Stu Tingley & Yves Cormier, a male **Hermit Warbler** at Gull Cove, WHI, May 14-15. This west coast stray obligingly remained for two days and was seen by several additional observers. A vagrant **Yellow-throated Warbler** was picked out among many other warblers at Park HQ, FNP, May 16 (Fulton Lavender). More unusual was a **Prothonotary Warbler** at Salisbury Aug. 17 (RS). Yet another very rare warbler here was a **Connecticut**

at Pettes Cove, GM, Aug. 20 (PAP). A male **Hooded Warbler** at Matthews Head, FNP, Oct. 15 (DD, Théo Arsenault+) was the first of that species to be photographed in New Brunswick.

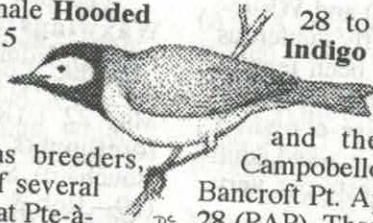
Pine Warblers are "increasing as breeders, especially Fredericton area" (JE). One of several autumn reports of them was in the north, at Pte-à-Bouveau Nov. 2 (RD). A rare spring occurrence of **Prairie Warbler** was at the Caraquet SL May 21 (photos—RD). Several **Prairie Warblers** were reported in the Grand Manan Archipelago between Aug. 16 and Sep. 26, including 2 each at Bancroft Pt. Sep. 11 (BED) and Long Eddy Pt. Sep. 25 (DG+). The first ever reported in northwestern New Brunswick was at Lac Baker Sep. 20 (DC). Finally, the latest ever was seen at North Head Nov. 12 & 26 (JGW+).

Very rare spring **Yellow-breasted Chats** were at Machias Seal I. May 28 & 30 (1-2—JS, Jason Hudson). Several were reported in fall: Mary's Pt. Aug. 19-24 (visitors), Gannet Rock Sep. 8-11 (2-1—RM), Fundy Park HQ Sep. 21 (Don & Alma White), near Deep Cove Sep. 26 (SIT, RS), Coleson Cove, near Lorneville, Oct. 1 (JGW), Southern Head Beach Oct. 2 (DG+), Saint John Nov. 27 (Roland Bosence).

A first-summer male **Summer Tanager** at the Cape Enrage Road Apr. 17 (v.o.) must have been carried north by the weather system that brought Blue Grosbeaks and early arrivals of certain other species in April. As in 1993, **Scarlet Tanagers** were scarce, at least in spring and fall migration. At heavily birded Grand Manan, there was only one observation in the spring, on the Whistle Road May 23 (2 males—JGW). It was also reported at Crystal Beach May 23 (AG), St-Joseph-de-Madawaska (DC, Pierrette Mercier) and Petite-Rivière-de-l'île, LI (Réal & Patrick Chiasson) May 28, and at Montagne à Blanchette, Edmundston, June 3 and 15 (Benoit Clavette) and at a feeder in Edmundston June 18 (Robert Émond). For the fall, there were two reports: Long Eddy Pt. Sep. 13 (SIT) and Pt. Wolfe, FNP, Oct. 10 (RJW & Gail Walker). How is this species doing in the inland deciduous forests where it breeds in western New Brunswick? Is it holding its own, or declining?

The large influx of **Northern Cardinals** in the fall of 1993 gave rise to more nesting than usual, including 5 breeding pairs known on Grand Manan (fide BED). Most Cardinals that overwintered in northern and eastern areas of the province probably had to move in search of a mate. For instance, a male was last seen Apr. 12 at Curryville, near Albert Mines (Judy Tait). Two wanderers even appeared at Machias Seal I. Apr. 26 (Alan Bradbury). At Sussex a female disappeared from one feeder and joined a male that had wintered a mile away. They brought 2 young to a feeder in the last half of July (fide John Candy). There was no obvious dispersal in the fall of 1994.

A few **Blue Grosbeaks** overshot their breeding range in spring, but none were reported in the fall: Pt. Lepreau Apr. 15 (DMcC), Bayswater for about a week by Apr. 24 (fide Frank & Mitzi Withers), Whistle Road, GM, Apr. 22-23 & 28 (AS), North Head Apr.



28 to May 2 (Ron Jones). Over a dozen **Indigo Buntings** in spring were more normal than the 50+ in 1993. There was a gap between three birds in late April and the remainder beginning May 10: Campobello I. Apr. 24 (fide Downeast Bird Line), Bancroft Pt. Apr. 25-27 (BED), and Fredericton Apr. 28 (PAP). There were also fewer in the fall, but there were 5 at Long Eddy Pt. Sep. 30 (SIT+).

There was a good fall showing of **Dickcissels**, ten to a dozen being reported: Castalia Marsh Sep. 10 (Jeff Gordon+); Long Eddy Pt. Sep. 11 (BED), Sep. 16 (1) & Sep. 30 (2—SIT); Alma Sep. 19-21, Oct. 3-4 (2) and 10 (Rob & Gail Walker); Miscou LH Oct. 4 (SIT); Shediac Nov. 4-5 and a different bird Nov. 13-20 (DD); Pt. Escuminac Nov. 17 (SIT).

Rufous-sided Towhee Machias Seal I. Apr. 28 (Alan Bradbury) and May 8-22 (2—JS), Southwest Head Apr. 30 (Monte Brigham), Taylors I., Saint John, May 1 (Steve Wilmot), Alma May 7-8 (Russell & Louise Butland+), Shepody May 15 (T&CF). The Bird Line mentioned "many" being reported during the last week of September. The only ones I have fall dates for were at Southern Head Beach Sep. 30 (DG, DLM), Machias Seal I. Oct. 8-18 (JS), and Ragged Pt. Oct. 8 (SS).

American Tree Sparrows were last noted in spring at Bancroft Pt. Apr. 11 (2—BED). Elsewhere they remained longer: Fredericton Apr. 24 (JA), Alma Apr. 29 (RJW), Bell Marsh, Moncton, May 2 (5, small numbers still present in many areas—SIT), Mary's Pt. May 3 (2—DSC), Edmundston May 16 (Gisèle Thibodeau), and Ste-Anne-de-Madawaska May 26 (Florida Lavoie). On the Acadian Peninsula, during the last week of April and first week of May they were "seen at several places daily, where mostly absent earlier in April" (RD). The first ones in the fall were at Miscou LH Oct. 4 (4—SIT) and St-Hilaire Oct. 19 (3—Simon Bouchard). The situation with **Snow Bunting** is similar. Robert Doiron found them "not unusual" on the Acadian Peninsula in late Apr. and early May, "often more common than in February." In southern N.B. usually few are seen in April; 5 at Castalia Marsh Apr. 5 (BED) and 3 at McGowans Corner Apr. 30 (RJW) were reported.

Yet another stray **Clay-colored Sparrow** was found singing on the Acadian Peninsula, this time near Shippagan July 7 (Norm Famous). Two were reported during the fall: Southwest Head Sep. 30 (SIT) and Miscou I., 1 km. west of the lighthouse Oct. 4 (SIT). About the usual number of **Field Sparrows** were reported: Alma Apr. 12 (Roy Dixon, fide RJW), St-Joseph-de-Madawaska Apr. 26 (DC, GC), Castalia Marsh May 23 (JGW), Lac Baker BBS June 18 (GT), Long Eddy Pt. Oct. 10 (AS), North Head Nov. 12 (JGW), and Southwest Head Nov. 12 (2—RAM). It was a good fall for **Lark Sparrows**: Southern Head Beach Aug. 19 (Wendy Harris), Mary's Pt. Aug. 22 (Doug McCrae+), Miscou I. Sep. 15 (Hilaire Chiasson), Southwest Head Sep. 30 (DLM+) and Oct. 21 (DSC), and North Head Nov. 12 (1 (BED) (JGW, SJNC). A single **Grasshopper Sparrow** was reported at Castalia Marsh Aug. 17 (AS). An "**Oregon Junco**"

was present for a few days through April 1 at Spruce Lake, Saint John (Ngairie Nelson).

A female **Yellow-headed Blackbird** was at Castalia Marsh Sep. 2-4 (Paul Jones, BED), about the same place and season as a number of previous records of this western stray. This year, **Orchard Oriole** made the news in summer at Moncton, rather than in spring at Grand Manan; an immature male was discovered in poplars near the Bell Marsh June 19-20 (RS+) and stayed till July 5 (*fide* JE). On July 4 a female was also reported there (DLM).

In marked contrast to the situation with Scarlet Tanagers, dozens of **Northern (Baltimore) Orioles** were reported in spring. May 10 was the day for arrivals at Grand Manan: Bancroft Pt. (BED), Harrington Cove (Maude Hunter), Machias Seal I. (4-JS), and Swallowtail Road (2-SIT). Elsewhere their return was noted at Oakland May 11 (A&DC), Alma May 13 (3-Gail Walker), Hampton May 13 (RD), at several places in the Moncton area shortly before May 19 (382-DUCK), and Caraquet May 22 (CNPA). Two late ones in fall were at Rockwood Park, Saint John, Nov. 5 (CG).

A **House Finch** was reported in the NE at St-Simon Apr. 1 (BH) and at Caraquet Nov. 16 (BH) and in the NW at St-Basile May 29 (Louise-Anne Lajoie). At Grand Manan some movement was noted Apr. 10-13. A female gathering nest material at Pettes Cove May 7 (Ian Cameron) was the first indication of nesting on the island (*fide* BED). In southern urban areas their presence continues unabated.

The large cone crop attracted both species of crossbills in the summer but then kept most finches in the forest so that there were few noticeable movements. **Red Crossbills** began to be reported in the spring. Nine, including at least 1 dark gray heavily streaked juvenile, at Matthews Head, FNP July 26 suggested they had nested, as the species had been conspicuous there for some time and there was a heavy crop of White Spruce cones (RJW). **White-winged Crossbills** began to be prominent in late June and by late July there were many singing birds in fir and spruce forests (SIT+). In late fall, Pat Émond was seeing hundreds a day in the woods near Kedgwick.

The winter's large influx of **Common Redpolls** continued strongly into the spring, for example, 100 at Riverview Mar. 25 (Chris & Mike Antle), 200+ at Crystal Beach Apr. 10 (AG), and 70+ at Westfield Apr. 12 (CG). By contrast, Brian Dalzell had a mere 3, the peak (!) of the winter at his Grand Manan feeder, Mar. 21. Well, Grand Manan has to take a back seat at least some of the time. Late redpolls were at Mary's Pt. Apr. 27 (2-DSC), on the Acadian Peninsula in the first week of May (a few here and there, and 50 still at feeder at Tracadie May 1-RD) and at Fredericton May 15 (JA)! During the fall, redpolls mostly stayed well north, and very few were reported. In addition to the **Hoary Redpolls** mentioned in the last issue a male was at Tracadie Apr. 5 (at feeder, might have been the one present till mid March-RD) and one at Edmundston Apr. 17 & 20 (Benoit Clavette, Monique Caron, Gisèle Thibodeau). The Hoary at Tina Steeves' feeder at

Salisbury ended a two-and-half-month stay Apr. 15 (*fide* Ron Steeves).

Mammals, Amphibians, Invertebrates & Flora

A **Woodchuck** active very early in the spring was reported along the Coverdale Rd., Riverview, by March 9 (MNC newsl.).

A **Minke Whale** was seen during a boat trip from Caraquet Aug. 27 (CNPA).

On Apr. 13, just after a warm evening rain, Mary Majka and I stopped to examine some of about 30 amphibians dead on the road at Daniels Flats, west of Hopewell Cape. Surprisingly, all were **Am. Toads**, rather than the Wood Frogs that we had expected on that early date. This is 3 to 4 weeks earlier than they usually begin calling in our area. There were reports of **Wood Frogs** calling at Halls Creek Apr. 12 (MNC meeting), Crystal Beach Apr. 15 (AG, JG) and of a few **Leopard Frogs** starting to call at Cape Jourimain about Apr. 16 (MNC info line).

A rarity in our waters were **Portuguese Man-of-War** jellyfish reported well south of Grand Manan on the South Grand Manan Bank July 30 (Bill Townsend+) and Aug. 9 (*fide* BED).

A very brief sampling of spring wildflowers shows **Coltsfoot** in bloom during a brief mild spell at Saint John Feb. 22 (Kit Graham), **Skunk Cabbage** blooming abundantly at Baie Verte Apr. 17 (CNC), **Mayflowers** and one **Trout-Lily** in bloom near Long Reach Apr. 29 (AG). Along the new Fundy Footpath from Fundy National Park to Little Salmon River **Dutchman's-breeches**, **Spring-Beauty** and **Trout-Lily** were all in bloom by May 8 (Chris Antle).

Abbreviations of Places:

FNP	Fundy Nat'l Park	NWA	Nat'l Wildlife Area
GM	Grand Manan	PP	Provincial Park
LH	Lighthouse	SL	sewage lagoon
LI	Lamèque Island	WHI	White Head I.
MI	Miscou Island	WP	Waterfowl Park

Other Abbreviations:

382-DUCK	N.B. Bird Info Line	JA	Janice Arndt
+	and other observers	JB	Jim Brown
+	and days following	JE	Jim Edsall
AC	Alain Clavette	JG	Janet Gorham
AG	Allen Gorham	JGW	Jim Wilson
AS	Andrew Sharkey	JS	Jim Smith
BED	Brian Dalzell	JT	John Tanner
BH	Benoit Hébert	MC	Moir Campbell
CG	Charles Graves	MD	Marcel David
CLJ	Cecil Johnston	MNC	Moncton Nat. Club
CNC	Chignecto Nat. Club	newsl.	newsletter
CNPA	Club de Nat. de la Péninsule Acadien	OL	Oscar LeBlanc
DB	Don Baldwin	PAP	Peter Pearce
DC	Denise Cyr	PW	Peter Wilcox
DD	Denis Doucet	RAM	Rose-Alma Mallet
DG	Don Gibson	RBA	rare bird alert
DLM	David Myles	RM	Rodger Maker
DMcC	David McCurdy	RJW	Rob Walker
DSC	David Christie	RS	Ron Steeves
FNC	Fredericton Nature Club	SIT	Stuart Tingley
GC	Gilberte Cyr	SJNC	Saint John Nat. Club
GT	Georgette Thibodeau	SS	Shirley Sloat
		TCF	Tina & Cam Fenton
		v.o.	various observers

International Migratory Bird Day— Sharing a Passion for Birds

Partners in Flight has designated May 13, 1995, as International Migratory Bird Day to encourage you to share your passion for birds with policy makers, the news media, land managers and private land owners, teachers and students, family and friends. Sharing your excitement is very important to successful conservation of birds.

Many species of birds are at risk. Threats to their populations are many and complex, although habitat loss throughout North America, Central America, and the Caribbean has had the greatest impact on many species.

For more information write to IMBD, USFWS Office of Migratory Bird Management, 4401 North Fairfax Dr., Room 634, Arlington, VA 22203. An Organizer's Packet that contains essential information to help you organize local events is available for US\$5. Posters are free.

Birdwatching for Beginners

Brian Dalzell will instruct two 5-day birdwatching workshops at Grand Manan, June 25-July 2 and Sep. 10-17, 1995. (Two days free for your own exploration.) Field work and classroom study is geared for the beginning to intermediate birder who wishes to sharpen his identification skills. Cost of \$750 includes accommodation, most meals, instruction, and a full-day boat trip to Machias Seal Island (summer) or the Grand Manan Basin (fall). Linda L'Aventure, 81 Pears Ave., Toronto, ONT M5R 1S9, tel. 416-921-7157, or after June 1: Island Arts, North Head, NB E0G 2M0; tel. 506-662-3625.

Annual Meeting at Sussex in May

The Kennebecasis Naturalists' Society hosts the annual meeting weekend May 26-28, 1995, at the Kiwanis Community Centre in Sussex. Consult the program insert in this magazine. See you there!

Project Tanager Needs Volunteers



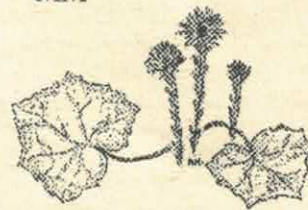
If you live in an area where Scarlet Tanagers breed, your help is needed by Project Tanager which is investigating the causes of tanager decline. Volunteers find forest plots where tanagers may be nesting, census the birds, monitor reproductive behaviour, and search for nests. Project Tanager participants receive a free instruction kit that includes report forms and a cassette tape, but donations to defray the costs are appreciated. To enroll write Project Tanager, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, P.O. Box 11, Ithaca, NY 14851-0011.

On the Cover: Peregrine Falcons

The cover of this issue once again features a drawing by the renowned wildlife artist Lars Larsen. Peregrine Falcons nest near his home. Last spring the pair shared a meal right in front of his studio windows, inspiring the second in a series of prints of endangered wildlife. A sketch for the first print in the series—the cougar—graced the December 1993 issue of this magazine. We are indebted to Lars for very generously permitting us to reproduce his artwork.

A full colour print of the pair of falcons is the 1995 Conservation Print of the New Brunswick Wildlife Federation. Our cover is part of a black and white print of a single falcon being sold by the artist. For ordering information, contact the wildlife federation at 506-457-7468, or Studio on the Marsh at 506-882-2100.

Lars Larsen will be guest speaker at the banquet during the 1995 annual general meeting in Sussex, at which time we hope to have some of his work on display and for sale. — MM



*N. B. Naturalist /
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