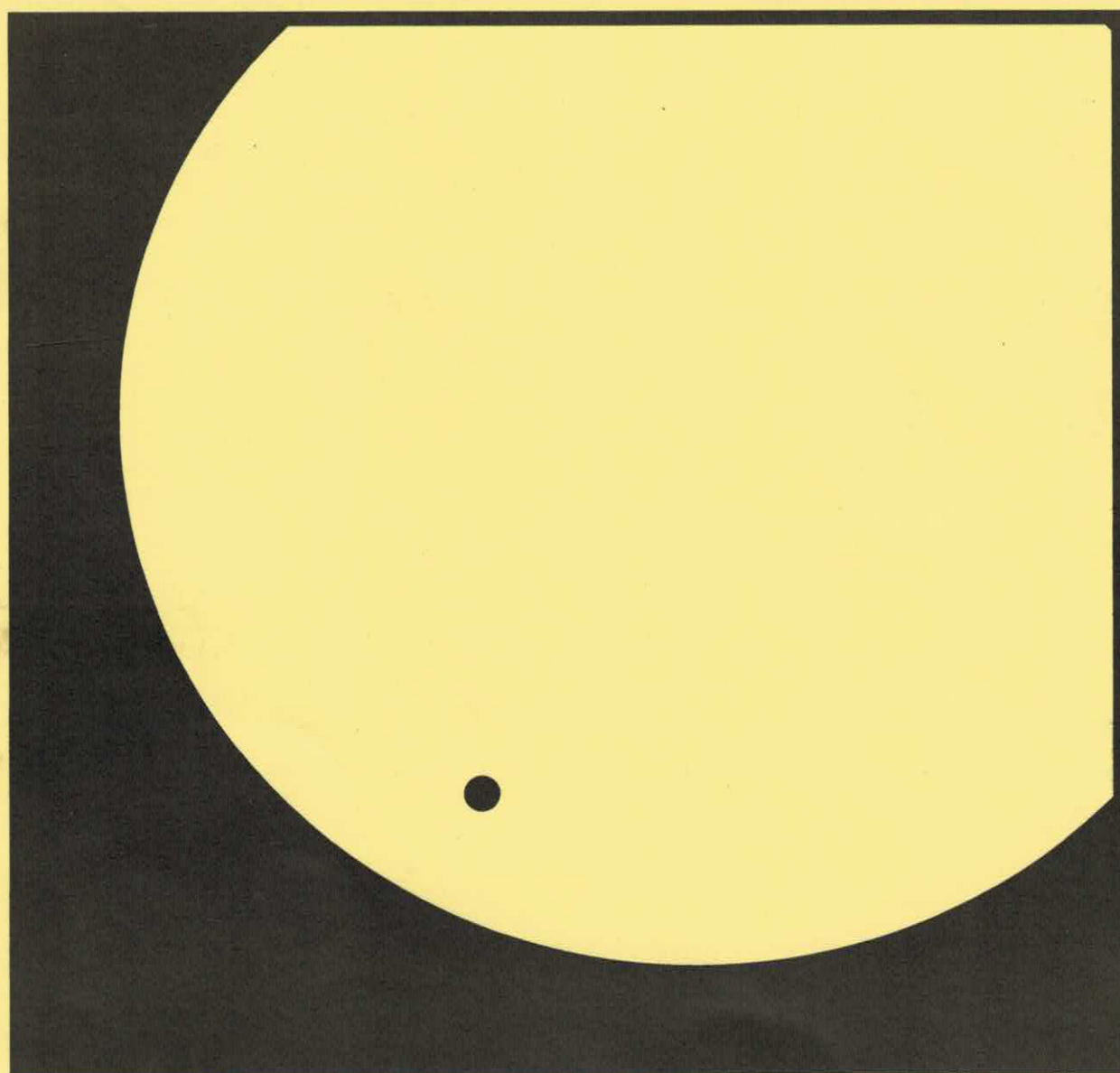


31 (2) Summer / Été 2004

N.B. Naturalist
Le Naturaliste du N.-B.





N. B. Federation of Naturalists Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B.

277 avenue Douglas Avenue, Saint John, N. B. E2K 1E5 Canada. www.naturenb.ca

The Federation is a non-profit organization formed in 1972 to encourage an understanding of nature and the environment, and to focus concern for the natural heritage of New Brunswick.

La Fédération est une organisation sans buts lucratifs formée en 1972 pour encourager une meilleure compréhension de l'environnement naturel, et pour éveiller le souci pour le patrimoine naturel du Nouveau-Brunswick.

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Association des Naturalistes de la Baie de Buctouche, c/o Marc LeBlanc 1529 383 chemin de la Cote, Grand-Digue, E4R 4A9; 576-1075; courriel / e-mail: mireille_godin@hotmail.com Site web: www.geocities.com/annboud Réunions le dernier mardi du mois à l'éco-centre Irving, la dune de Buctouche (septembre à juin) avec sorties chaque mois.

Celebration of Birds Nature Club (Gagetown), c/o Bonnie Hamilton Bogart, 194 Tilley Road, Gagetown NB E5M 1H7; email bonniehb@nb.sympatico.ca. Information evenings every 3rd Wednesday in February and March, and field trips in April and May.

Chignecto Naturalists' Club, c/o CWS, Box 6227, Sackville, NB E4L 1G6; 364-5047; meets Sackville Public Library, 7:30 pm, 1st Thur., Sept.-June.

Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne, 1521-4 chemin Cowan's Creek Pokemouche, NB E8P 2C6; courriel: emile.info@cnpa.ca site web: <http://www.cnpa.ca> réunions au Club de l'âge d'or Landry, 1er mercredi, sept. à juin; *Le Gobe-mouche* mensuel.

Club de Naturalistes Vallée de Memramcook a/s Yolande LeBlanc, 251 rue Centrale, Memramcook NB E4K 3P8; tél. 758-9583; courriel: yolande@nbnet.nb.ca réunions 1^{er} mardi de mois, sept. à juin, à la Salle Mère Marie-Léonie

Club d'ornithologie du Madawaska Ltée, a/s Musée historique du Madawaska, 195 boul. Hébert, Edmundston NB E3V 2S8; tél. 737-5282

(Bert Lavoie); réunions à 19h30, 2ième mercredi, sept. à juin, Musée du Madawaska; *Le Jaseur* bimestriel.

Club les Ami(e)s de la Nature du sud-est INC, a/s Abel Doucet, C.P. 4204, Dieppe, NB E1A 6E8, ligne d'information: 532-Buse réunions alternant entre Dieppe et Shédiac, 1er mercredi du mois; excursions 3ième samedi ou dimanche; *La plume verte*.

River Valley Naturalist Club (formerly Ford Alward Naturalist Association), c/o Lorna Maddox, 1-71 Barker Lane, Unit 1, Wicklow, N.B. E7L 3S4; tel. 392-6481 meets Florenceville Town Hall, 7:00 pm, 4th Thur., Sept.-June; meetings advertised in local newspapers.

Fredericton Nature Club, Box 772, Station A, Fredericton, NB E3B 5B4; 455-2038; meets Odell Park Lodge, at Odell Park, 7:00 pm, 2nd Wed., Sept.-May; monthly newsletter.

Kennebecasis Naturalists' Society, c/o Ms H. Folkins, 827 Main St., Sussex, NB E4E 2N1; meets St. Paul's United Church Hall, 7:30 pm, 4th Mon., Sept.-June; quarterly newsletter.

Moncton Naturalists' Club, Box 28036, Highfield Square P.O., Moncton, NB E1C 9N4; 384-6397 (information line); meets Church of the Nazarene, 21 Fieldcrest Drive, 7 pm, 2nd Mon., Sept.-June; monthly newsletter.

Restigouche Naturalists' Club, c/o Mike Lushington 214 Rosebery Street, Campbellton, NB E3N 2H5; 684-3258; meets Village-Campbellton Nursing Home, 7 pm, 1st Monday; <http://members.tripod.com/~RestNatClub>

Saint John Naturalists' Club, P.O. Box 2071, Saint John, NB E2L 3J5; meets N.B. Museum at Market Square, 7:30 pm 2nd Mon., Sept.-May, elsewhere in June; monthly newsletter.

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On peut lire dans *Le Naturaliste du N.-B.* des rapports touchant l'histoire naturelle du Nouveau-Brunswick. Les articles seront acceptés en français ou en anglais pour être reproduits dans la langue d'origine. Les opinions exprimées sont celles de leurs auteurs. **Veuillez faire parvenir toutes articles pour Le Naturaliste du N.-B. à: Gert Bishop, 16 Pitt St. Sussex NB, E4E 1J1; tel. (506) 433-4994, gartali@nbnet.nb.ca** Demandez les détails de compatibilité d'ordinateur. Tarifs publicitaires disponibles sur demande.



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RAPPORT DU PRÉSIDENT / PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mike LeBlanc

Bonjour les membres de la FNNB,

L'AGA 2004 est maintenant fini et à été un grand succès grâce au travail du Club d'ornithologie du Madawaska Ltée et du comité organisateur pour leur excellent travail. Je sais que pour Bernadette et moi les AGAs sont toujours des expériences incroyables car nous avons la chance de découvrir des endroits de notre belle province avec des gens qui les connaissent d'avantage. Cette année nous avons eu la chance de visiter Falls Brook et le Lac Glasier et pour nous qui demeurons dans l'est de la province, les montagnes, chutes et bien sur le lac ne sont pas partie de nos vies de tous les jours. Aussi avoir la chance de manger des bonnes ployes et l'hospitalité du Madawaska. A la réunion annuelle nous avons changé quelques lois de la FNNB pour mettre plus au clair la position de notre directrice générale et ses tâches.

Je voudrais remercier le Kennebecasis Nauralists' Society pour avoir accepté d'organiser la réunion annuelle de 2005. On y sera!

Comme vous le savez peut être, la FNNB a enregistré le nom de commerce Nature NB. Ceci est pour compléter notre part du réseau canadien de la nature que certaines autres organisations au Canada sont entrain de faire la même chose, nature _____. La FNNB n'a pas changé de nom officiellement mais, nous voulions s'assurer que le nom est là si le besoin pour l'utiliser est là dans le future. Cette décision vient de la conférence Future Search qui a eu lieu à Ottawa en juin 2002 et la raison principale est si nous avons des noms semblables partout au Canada c'est plus facile pour les naturalistes et citoyens de reconnaître nos organisations. Donc Nature NB, Nature Canada, Nature Saskatchewan, etc... nous savons que c'est des groupes de naturalistes donc, plus uniforme à travers du Canada.

J'aimerais remercier tous ceux qui font leur part pour la nature du Nouveau-Brunswick.

Hi there fellow naturalists,

The 2004 AGM is now over and was a great success thanks to all the hard work of the Club d'ornithologie du Madawaska Ltée and the organizing committee which resulted in such an enjoyable weekend. I know that for Bernadette and I, the AGMs are always so much fun and filled with many great memories because we have the chance to visit new areas and discover new trails with people familiar with these special places. This year we got the chance to explore Falls Brook and Glasier Lake. For us who live in the eastern part of the province, mountains, falls and lakes are not seen very often. The chance to enjoy *ployes* and the Madawaska hospitality was much appreciated. At the AGM changes were made to the NBFN by-laws to make things easier since we now have an executive director.

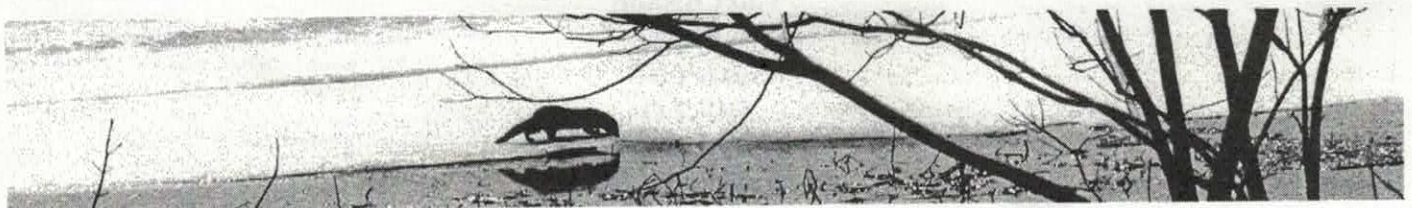
I would like to thank the Kennebecasis Naturalists' Society for agreeing to undertake preparations for the 2005 AGM. We will be there!

As you may or may not know the NBFN has registered the trade name Nature NB. This is to complete our part in the Canadian Nature Network's plan to make it easier for the public to understand what we are about. Nature _____ makes it much easier to understand that we are about nature. The NBFN has not changed its name but makes it simpler to use the name Nature NB. We must make sure this name is well used in the future. This decision was made at the Future Search conference that was held in June 2002 in Ottawa where it was recommended that similar names would be better across the country. So Nature NB, Nature Saskatchewan or Nature Canada, no matter where you are you will know that this organization is on the nature side of things or is a naturalist group and makes it more uniform across Canada.

I would like to thank everyone who does positive things for nature in New Brunswick.

Pour plus de nouvelles de la Fédération, SVP voir la page 66.

See page 66 for more on Federation News.



HIGH TIDE AT FREDERICTON

Don Gibson

When the waters of the St. John River at Fredericton reach an elevation of six metres there is cause for concern; at seven metres some streets and basements are flooded and when eight metre levels are experienced the results are disastrous. About 130 kilometres downstream, at Saint John, the Bay of Fundy rises to near seven metres twice daily and on the occasions when the moon and sun align, heights of eight metres can be exceeded. But for a narrow gorge near the mouth of the river that acts as a flow control structure, high tides could cause flooding in the lower St. John River valley.

Rapids are quite commonplace as a feature of many rivers; however, when those rapids are known to reverse direction, people take notice. For that reason, thousands of tourists visit Reversing Falls to witness this spectacle. Most people look on in amazement and then leave without considering some other interesting things that are happening upstream. The incoming water itself causes the river level to rise and it forms a dam of sort so that the outgoing flow also rises. During "summer low" this result can be seen far upstream; to a point about 15 kilometres above Fredericton. Admittedly, to view the tidal effect there would be quite unspectacular.

During summers of little rain, small sandbars often appear in the river near the Westmorland Street Bridge at Fredericton. The patient observer may notice that sometimes these sandbars will be visible and then they will be partially or totally submerged as a result of "high tide" at Fredericton.

Information is available that shows the amount of rise at various locations along the river and the corresponding time of the highest level (relative to high tide at Saint John). For example: there is a 40 centimetre increase at Oak Point and it occurs about three hours and 15 minutes after high tide at Saint John; at Oromocto the numbers are 20 cm at eight hours.

Life would be very different along the low-lying areas of the river valley between Saint John and Fredericton if the water from the Bay of Fundy could

enter the system unabated. Twice daily flooding would dictate an alternate use for that land.

To determine the actual extent of flooding for this scenario would be a rather complex task. Although it might be possible to calculate the amount of water that would enter the estuary, the large receiving areas such as Kennebecasis Bay, Washademoak Lake and Grand Lake

would significantly limit the maximum height to which the river could rise. Whereas, currently a 15 centimetre rise can be detected at Fredericton, it is doubtful that a wide-mouthed river could allow enough flow to cause catastrophic flooding there. A difference of two to three metres would be more likely.

As the following tale illustrates, being armed with a knowledge of the tidal effects on the river system can have its advantages. The fall of 2002 was very dry and the water levels in the St. John River were near summer lows on into December. While doing a Christmas Bird Count I happened to be along the watercourse between Harts Lake and Coys Lake. The thing that caught my attention was the noticeable movement of water along that short stream, whereas most other brooks in the area were almost dry. Then something more peculiar struck me – the water was moving in the wrong direction. A later check of the Bay of Fundy tide tables revealed that the time was right for the tidal inflow to force water upstream here.

Had I not known the situation, I may have had doubts about one the prime laws of nature that I learned as a young engineer – water doesn't flow uphill.

Suggested reading:

Duff, A. Wilmer (1897). Tidal Phenomena of the St. John River at Low Summer Level. Bulletin of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick No. XV, 1897, p 65.

Ganong, W.F. (1917). The Movement of the Head of the Tide on New Brunswick Rivers. Bulletin of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick No. XXXII, 1917, p 135.



Flooding at Fredericton 1976

Photo by: Don Gibson

NIGHTTIME NATURALIST

Roy LaPointe

Precession is a phenomenon that has little noticeable effect over a short period such as a human lifetime. It does however, have considerable effect on the sky we observe and our environment over the long term.

Precession is the very slow rotation or wobble of the Earth's axis around another axis; that of the ecliptic poles*. It is caused by the gravitational pull of the Sun and Moon on the Earth's equatorial bulge. This effect is similar to that seen in a child's spinning top when it is given a little nudge.

The Earth's axis of rotation maintains an almost constant tilt of 23.4° to the ecliptic pole as it orbits the Sun. The celestial poles appear to always point in the same direction but in the long term are actually moving in a circle with a radius of 23.4° . This circle takes about 26,000 years to complete, see diagram.

The *vernal equinox*, which marks the beginning of spring, occurs when the Sun appears to cross the equator on its way north, on or about 21 March. This is called the *zero-point* on the celestial equator* and is constantly shifting as a result of precession. This shift is commonly referred to as the *Precession of the equinoxes*. The change is small, a little less than one arc minute ($1/60$ of a degree) of right ascension* a year, or about one degree in an average lifetime.

So what does this mean to us short-lived people? Very little in our everyday lives. To astronomers, it means that they have to buy new charts every few years because the stars have moved a little out of position. For the astrologer, it is an infernal debunker. The Sun was in Aries at the beginning of spring 2,000 years ago and now is in Pisces at that time, but have the astrologers changed their charts?

If we were to live longer, we would see Polaris drift away from the geographical pole. About 5,000 years ago, Thuban, the brightest star in Draco was the pole star. In about 11,000 years, Vega will be the pole star as it was

circa 13,000 B.C. Using the stars for nighttime navigation will be a little harder when there is no bright pole star.

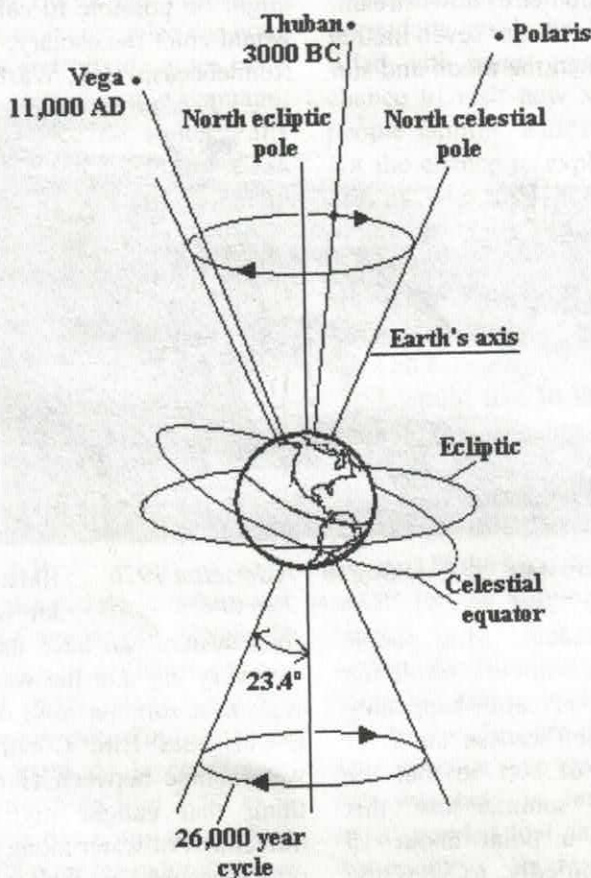
Both right ascension and declination* are affected by precession. Familiar winter constellations such as Orion will become summer wonders and will be lower in the sky. Summer constellations such as Sagittarius will appear in the winter months and be higher in the sky. Oooh! I can hardly wait.

At present, the Earth is farthest from the Sun during summer and closest during winter in the northern hemisphere. Precession will change that so that we will be closest to the Sun during the summer. This means that in about 13,000 years, summer will be warmer and winter colder in these parts. The change of season relative to distance from the Sun may be a cause in the triggering of ice ages.

Evidence of past warming and cooling cycles can be seen near Parrsboro, N.S. The cliffs along the Fundy shore just east of the Glooscap campground are made up of alternating layers of green and red soil indicating dry and moist periods of deposition. The cycle of these formations has been measured at 26,000 years, the same period as the precession of the equinoxes.

The path of the celestial poles is not a smooth circle but is slightly sinuous giving it a scalloped effect. This period fluctuation is caused by the inclined orbit of the Moon and has a cycle of 18.3 years. These fluctuations are called *nutation*.

* See previous article in N.B. Naturalist 31 (1): 14 for definitions.



Precession

Nighttime viewing, August - November

My previous listing of upcoming celestial events was somewhat out of sync with the publication date of the N.B. Naturalist. Consequently, I will post future events well ahead of time.

The Planets

Mercury will give its best showing of the year in September. It will be in the ENE reaching greatest elongation of 18° W.

Venus is in the morning sky during this period reaching greatest elongation of 46° W on August 24. It rises well before the Sun but by the November will be low to the horizon and dim.

Mars will not be worth observing until the end of November when it starts to move up in the morning sky.

Jupiter, like Mars, is moving behind the Sun in this period and will not give much of a showing until mid-October when it rises in the early morning sky.

Saturn is in Gemini about 20° above the eastern horizon as twilight begins at the end of August. By October, it rises in the ENE by 11pm and two hours earlier in November, always in Gemini.

Meteor Showers

By the time this reaches you, the Perseid meteor shower centered around August 12 will likely be over

but, there are plenty more to come. The second half of the year brings us the best of these showers. The following is a list of the more notable ones.

Perseids - Aug 10-14, peak Aug 12, peak rate 100/hr, R.A. 03h 04m, dec. +58°.

Orionids - Oct 19-23, peak Oct 21, peak rate 25/hr, R.A. 06h 20m, dec. +16°.

Leonids - Nov 14-21, peak Nov 17, peak rate 50/hr, R.A. 10h 12m, dec. +22°.

Geminids - Dec 11-16, peak Dec 14, peak rate 50/hr, R.A. 07h 28m, dec. +76°.

The dates shown are for the period in which the rate is at least 25% of the peak rate. Peak rate is what you can expect under ideal conditions (rare). Radiant is the point the meteors seem to radiate from and is given in right ascension (R.A.) in hours and minutes and declination (dec.) in degrees above or below the celestial equator.

Special Events

The total lunar eclipse on October 27 will be visible in its entirety all across North America and will be the last total eclipse for the world until a pair in 2007. No special equipment or eye protection is needed, just clear sky. The show will begin around 9:15pm and ends around 1:00am. Set up your chaise lounge, grab a hot drink, sit back and enjoy.



JOHNSON MILLS SHOREBIRD RESERVE

Denise Roy

As you make your way along the head of the Shepody Bay, approximately 35km south of Moncton, you will arrive at Johnson Mills, New Brunswick. Along a dirt road, a sign will greet you upon arrival at the Nature Conservancy of Canada's (NCC) Johnson Mills Nature Preserve. The mud flats and tidal marshes of the upper reaches of the Bay of Fundy are considered to be some of the most important stopover sites for shorebirds in North America. More than two million shorebirds pause each year in the upper Bay of Fundy to feed on the extensive intertidal mud flats during late summer en route to their wintering habitat in South America.

During high tide, while resting on the pebble beach, shorebirds are at their most vulnerable. Slight disturbances cause them to fly off and burn their precious

fat reserves required for migration. Migrating shorebirds need to feed and rest, undisturbed. While observing shorebirds, visitors are encouraged to use viewing platforms, walk softly, abstain from waving or shouting, drive slowly and quietly and not bring pets.

Since 1994, NCC has secured about 120 hectares of habitat at Johnson Mills. Through the implementation of a visitor management program and the opening of a shorebird interpretation centre in July 2000, NCC is working to ensure that ecotourism activity is conducted in a sustainable manner. The centre is open daily during July and August and interpreters are on hand to answer questions. For more information on the Johnson Mills Interpretive Centre and the best time to see the shorebirds, please call (506) 379-6347.

BOTANY CORNER

Gart Bishop

The lemony yellow blooms of Evening Primrose (Onagre) are familiar attractions along dry, sandy roadside margins throughout New Brunswick ... and in my small garden. I confess to being a terrible gardener.

Almost every year I start out with great intentions; I turn over the soil, sometimes add compost, rake it smooth, sow seeds, plant annuals and weed around the perennials. And then from June onward, I do nothing. I pretend to be too busy. Weeds quickly dominate over carrots and beets, and the broccoli is eaten by caterpillars.

Thus, Evening Primrose quite frequently finds my garden, and does well. I don't mind really, for I enjoy the blooms.

New Brunswick has two species of Evening Primrose [*Oenothera parviflora* and *Oenothera biennis*] which are very similar. They can be separated by carefully examining the sepals, either while the flower is in bud or when past flowering. (see Figure 1.)

The four-petaled flowers of Evening Primrose frequently self-pollinate although they are often visited by night-flying moths. The flowers can open suddenly (within a minute) late in the day or on overcast days ... hence the common name. The seeds germinate in fall or early spring and grow into a leafy rosette. The leaves have a prominent white vein. After a year (sometimes more) as a rosette, the plant sends up a stout flowering stalk, often with many branches, blooms and then dies (a true biennial). Seeds that become buried are thought to remain viable for up to 80 years, germinating when in one centimetre, or less, of soil. Evening Primrose reproduces entirely by seed with no known vegetative reproduction.

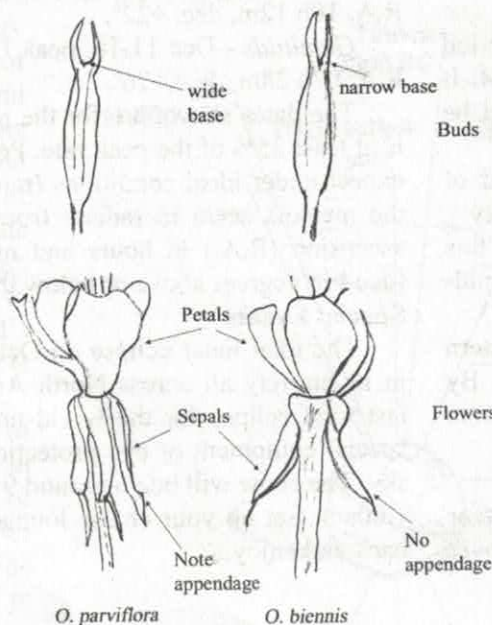


Figure 1.

The plant forms a carrot-like taproot which is edible while the plant is in the rosette stage. (see Figure 2.) This spring I boiled some in a couple of changes of water and served them to my family, with mixed reactions. They were certainly pleasant, but had an unknown flavour that was strange. Many years ago, a friend and I had tried to eat the roots of plants that had flowering stalks, only to find a very woody root that did not soften even after being boiled for an hour.

Numerous insects forage on Evening Primrose including sap-sucking aphids cotton fleahoppers and meadow spittlebugs. The caterpillars of at least seven moth species are known to feast on the foliage.

Looking inside the flowers, you may be fortunate enough to find a Primrose Moth, which Tony Thomas mentioned in a recent posting to Nature NB could be identified as having "... a pair of pink wings sticking out". If you observe seed capsules that have been torn open, the plants have likely been visited by American Goldfinches which love to feast on the seeds.

Evening Primrose was one of the first North American plants to be taken to Europe (in 1614) as a potential food ... the tap root was considered 'choice' eating. While the starchy root never caught on as a food source, folks wishing to enjoy eating wild plants can not only boil up a mess of roots, but might add the young leaves of the basal rosettes to salads or boil them as a pot herb. The seed has been used as a poppy-seed substitute, and is commercially grown for its oil, which is used in various medications, dietary supplements and cosmetics.



Figure 2.

Useful references

- Eastman, J. 2003. The Book of Field and Roadside; Open-Country Weeds, Trees and Wildflowers of Eastern North America. Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA.
- Hinds, H. R. 2000. Flora of New Brunswick, second edition. Biology Department, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB.
- Sanders, J. 1993. Hedgemaids and Fairy Candles. Ragged Mountain Press, Camden, Me.

FROM OUR PAST

Selected by Mary Sollows



The following article was taken from the Bulletin of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick: No. XXVI, Volume VI, Part I, pp. 36-38.

ARTICLE II.

NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY AND PHYSIOGRAPHY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

By W. F. Ganong

112.-ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL BASIS OF NEW BRUNSWICK SEA-SERPENTS.

Read December 3, 1907.

The progress of science finds its greatest obstacle in the imperfections of the mind of man. Our innate proneness to belief in mysteries and wonders, our preference for pleasant fiction over commonplace fact, our habit of turning everything to self justification or self-magnification, all tend to warp the judgment from the objective towards the subjective. We cannot, however, reject all reported wonders as untrue, for while most of them are false a few are not; science must examine them all, to determine whether they have a real existence, or are simply imaginings born from the credulity of ignorant men or the mendacity of cultured ones. Credulity may evolve wonders either by exaggeration of a real phenomenon, as in the case of the Fire Ship of Caraquet (Note 92), or by forcing real phenomena into support of a pre-conceived notion, as in the myths of the Sea-serpent.

Some of the reports of New Brunswick Sea-serpents have a perfectly genuine basis in all but name, that being adopted for reasons more or less humorous. Thus, for the past few summers, the local papers have often reported the appearances of the "Sea-serpent" at Passamaquoddy and the Saint Croix. The animal is really there, but it is, according to the testimony of observant persons, a White Whale, an animal very rare in these waters, though abundant in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. Locally it is stated that it came into the Bay with the war-ships taking part in the Champlain celebration, June 25, 1905. But in this belief we have nothing but an illustration of another wonder-tendency, viz., the habit of linking together, as casually connected, prominent events which are merely (or only approximately) contemporaneous; for data in my possession show that this animal was seen in the bay at least one season before 1905.

But of Sea-serpent myths of the more usual type, three cases have come under my notice. The first is the locally well-known Monster of Lake Utopia, of which

more is below. The second is probably an echo thereof, for Dr. J. Orne Green tells me there is locally a shadowy belief in the former presence of a Sea-serpent in Oromocto Lake. The third is the locally-celebrated case reported by the late Mr. Eben Hall, of Saint Stephen, who as a young man saw a strange monster on some of the lakes of Maine, upon which he gave lectures and often discoursed, all in perfect good faith.

Returning now to the Monster of Lake Utopia, we possess a contemporary record of great interest in A. Leith Adams' *Field and Forest Rambles*, page 56; Adams found, in 1867, large baited hooks set by the residents around this lake for the capture of the monster. He traced the evidence for its occurrence to a strange disturbance observed a short time before in the calm waters of the lake, a disturbance he explained as due to some such natural causes as the opening of sub-aqueous fissures, or else shoals of small fishes, or else tiny squalls from the neighboring hills. He also mentions that the track of some huge animal was claimed to have been traced from the sea to the lake some thirty years before.*

With these matters in mind I have been on the lookout for some years past, during my trips on New Brunswick waters, for appearances which might sustain a Sea-serpent pre-conception, and I have noticed these. In lakes long dammed for lumbering purposes the marginal trees are killed, fall over, and float around half water-logged. When the waves roll these over, their irregular shapes, dark slimy surfaces, and occasional projecting roots make them resemble somewhat a long slender animal moving in the water. Again, on the mud bottoms of our northern lakes, one often sees long sinuous troughs of serpentine suggestion, really made by moose, which wallow there for hours together on warm summer days (compare the "furrows in the sand" of the accompanying footnote). More serpent-suggestive still are the beaver

paths made by those animals from one pond to another, - naked paths rounded in contour and winding close to the ground through overhanging vegetation. Also I think the ancient Indian portage trails, in which the hollowed path persists long after it has been overarched by vegetation would give the same impression. And I venture to think the old serpent path from the sea to Lake Utopia, mentioned by Adams, was simply the important old Indian trail which we know existed between the Lake and the Letang River.

*As illustration of the local tales about this monster, I copy the following from my note-book of the year 1891.

Mr. McCartney, an observant and well-informed resident of Red Rock, Charlotte County, said that some twenty years ago he often saw the Monster of Lake Utopia while lumbering there; it was dark red in color, the part showing above water was twenty, feet long (about) and as big around as a small hogshead; it had two large flapping affairs like fins; no head was ever shown; it was much like a large eel; it never let anyone get near it but was often seen by lumbermen from the shore; he had seen it many times with his own eyes; he had also seen or heard of great furrows in the sand which it had made; it disappeared about eighteen years ago and has not since been heard of by anyone.

KENNEBECASIS NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

Brian Elliot

"The founding meeting of the Kennebecasis Naturalists' Society was held at the Sussex Composite High School on Feb. 28, 1974. Phillip Mallory was elected president and Mary Majka, a well-known New Brunswick naturalist, gave an illustrated talk on animal and plant life in southern New Brunswick." So an article in the March 14th edition of the King's County Record states. Yes, the Society was born 30 years ago this past spring.

Flipping through the Society scrapbook gives a glimpse of the wide variety of presentations and field trips enjoyed by the members - "Being a Naturalist", "Sailing on Belleisle Bay", going underground at the Potash Company of mine in Penobsquis, several tours to Fundy National Park, "Bobcats and Lynx in N.B.", "Woodlot Management", "Natural Dyes", "Butterflies and Moths of N.B.", trips to King's Landing, Magnetic Hill Game Farm, Deer Island, Irving Nature Park, and Anderson's Holiday Farm, to mention a few.

Scanning the minutes from the business meetings is also interesting. By the third meeting members of the Society were being encouraged to not just be observers of nature but active in conserving it. In the second year the Society agreed to join the New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists to add our voice to conservation efforts.

It was not all easy. In 1976 and 1977, the minutes recorded several discussions about the possibility of disbanding the Society due to a lack of members. In fact,

meetings did stop between May 1978 and Jan. 1980 except for participation in the annual Christmas Bird Count. The Jan. 1981 meeting saw the membership fee raised from \$2 to \$3 per year and the formation of a lunch committee. The social aspect of the Society seems to have outweighed the cost as the organisation continued to grow.

Meetings were held at the Sussex Composite High School, in members' homes, the agricultural building, the Anglican Homes Club House, and finally in 1981 settled in St. Paul's United Church. Field trips have ranged across southern New Brunswick from Grand Manan Island to Mary's Point, Fundy National Park to King's Landing. Members explored ice caves and potash mines, viewed farms and forests, identified plants and animals, and expressed their concern about land-use preservation in Sussex and the surrounding area. Important parts of each meeting were, and still are: the discussion of sightings by members, the opportunity to ask questions about nature, the sharing of magazines and articles relating to nature, a presentation on a natural history topic, and the social time following the completion of business.

After 30 years the intent of the Society remains the same - to encourage an awareness of, and enjoyment of nature. Some of the original members have left us but fortunately their legacy, the Kennebecasis Naturalists' Society, remains.



RAPPORT AGA 2004

Pierrette Mercier, coordinatrice

Cette année, l'assemblée générale annuel de la Fédération des Naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick a eu lieu conjointement avec la Fédération canadienne de la Nature à Edmundston dans le nord-ouest de la province. Le Club d'ornithologie du Madawaska a accueilli 127 naturalistes provenant de partout au Canada. Le nombre de participants était un peu plus bas qu'on s'attendait. Cependant, il y avait 92 participants provenant du Nouveau-Brunswick soit 72% des inscriptions. C'était une agréable surprise de voir tant de membres de la FNNB venir malgré le coût plus élevé du congrès. Aussi, cette année le congrès était d'une durée de quatre jours plutôt que trois.

Le nombre d'inscriptions plus faible qu'attendu nous a obligé d'annuler certaines sorties prévues lors des quatre jours du congrès ainsi que modifier certaines activités tel que le souper BBQ qui devait être cuit sur place à condition de vendre un minimum de 150 soupers (seulement 104 ont été vendus). Malgré ces modifications, il y avait un peu de tout pour tous les goûts incluant une visite à une galerie d'art et au Jardin Botanique du Nouveau-Brunswick.

Mère Nature ne nous a pas fait de cadeau lors du congrès avec des températures froides record lors des quatre jours avec des vents forts et un facteur éolien sous 0° Celsius. Les gens qui ont fait la sortie en bateau sur le lac Glasier peuvent affirmer cette observation. Au moins il n'a pas plu lors des sorties.

Les sorties ont été un succès malgré la température. Notre coordinateur des sorties, Roy LaPointe, a sélectionné des endroits bien connus ainsi que des coins cachés pour démontrer la diversité naturelle de la région. Environ 130 espèces d'oiseaux, 10 espèces de mammifères et plusieurs espèces botaniques rares ont été inventoriées.

L'atmosphère au banquet était détendue et amicale. La FNNB a honoré la contribution de Hilaire et Rose-Aline Chiasson à notre patrimoine naturel avec le statu de membres à vie honoraire. De son côté, la FCN a décerné

son plus grand honneur, le prix Douglas H. Pimlott, posthume au naturaliste néo-écossais, Stewart Colin. Les prix de Volontaire de l'année ont été décernés à Martin Willison et notre fameux Gert Bishop. Un enca silencieux pendant le souper a fait sortir un peu de rivalité amicale entre quelques membres tout en ramassant plus de \$1200 en fonds pour les associations participantes. Les items à l'encan et au tirage nous ont été donnés par plusieurs individus, commerces, clubs de la Fédération ainsi que la FCN et la FNNB. Merci à tous les participants.

Je tiens à remercier, les membres du comité organisateur : (Colette Lavoie, Donna Levesque, Lynne Ouellette, Jean-Pierre Beaulieu, Marilène Beaulieu, Gisèle Thibodeau, Roy LaPointe, Charlotte LaPointe, Simon Bouchard, Daniel Bouchard, Manon LeBlanc-Clavet, et Josée Martin), tout les bénévoles qui ont travaillé comme guide et l'accueil, Bert Lavoie et le Musée Historique du Madawaska, la faculté de science forestière de l'Université de Moncton, Campus



Sortie à Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes avec Charlotte LaPointe

Photo: Roy Lapointe

Edmundston, nos conférenciers : (Don McAlpine, Lise Caron, Charles Neveu, Jim Goltz, Becky Whittam, Sean Blaney, Lewnanny Richardson et Carole LeBlanc), nos commanditaires trop nombreux pour énumérer ainsi que tous les membres qui sont venus et ont fait un succès de ce congrès.

On se revoit à Sussex en 2005.

AGM 2004 REPORT

Pierrette Mercer, coordinator

As you possibly know, this year's annual general meeting of the New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists was held jointly with the Canadian Nature Federation in Edmundston. The Club d'ornithologie du Madawaska was host to 127 naturalists from all over Canada. There were fewer registrations than expected. However, 92 participants, or 72%, were from New Brunswick. This was a wonderful surprise considering the increased fees for the combined meeting and that the AGM weekend lasted four days rather than three.

The lower than expected number of registrations required us to cancel some of the scheduled field trips and modify certain activities (the BBQ supper, for example, was to be cooked on site but not enough were sold for the caterer to come). The registrants were however very understanding about such changes and the weekend still went smoothly.

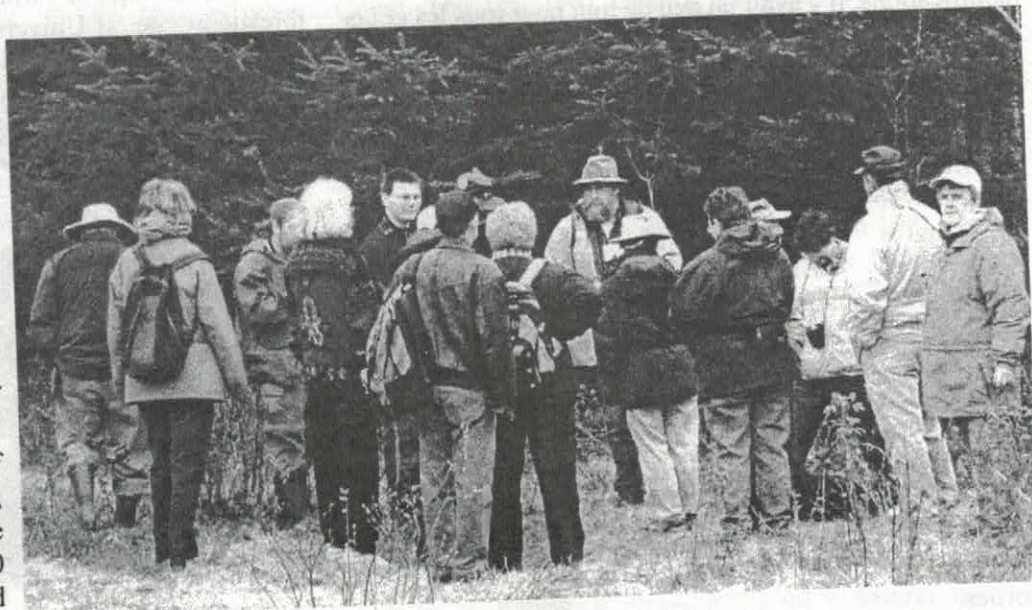
Mother Nature was not kind with record low temperatures and a wind chill equivalent to well below 0° Celsius and even a few snowflakes were reported. Being naturalists, people took it in stride and were just happy that it didn't rain during the field trips.

The field trips were a success in spite of the frigid temperatures. Roy LaPointe, our coordinator, was able to organize a good selection of excursions to show the participants different areas of our region, some well known, others hidden treasures. Close to 130 species of birds, 10 species of mammals and several uncommon plants were noted in Madawaska County during the AGM. (Full lists may be obtained from Roy.)

The atmosphere at the annual banquet was relaxed and friendly. The NBFN presented Hilaire and Rose-Aline Chiasson with a life-membership award to honour their contributions to the Federation and to the natural heritage of our province, especially on the Acadian peninsula. The CNF also presented its awards during the banquet posthumously honouring Nova Scotia naturalist Colin Stewart with the Douglas H. Pimlott Award. Two volunteer awards were presented to Martin Willison and

to our own Gart Bishop for their hard work and contributions. A silent auction was held during the banquet, bringing out a little friendly rivalry among some of those present permitting us to pick up over \$1200 in donations to be shared among the participating organizations. The items from the auction and the raffle were donated by individuals, businesses, clubs, the NBFN and the CNF. Thank you to all who participated.

I would like to thank the members of the organizing committee: (Colette Lavoie, Donna Levesque, Lynne Ouellette, Jean-Pierre Beaulieu, Marilène Beaulieu, Gisèle Thibodeau, Roy LaPointe, Charlotte LaPointe, Simon Bouchard, Daniel Bouchard, Manon LeBlanc-Clavet and Josée Martin), as well as the many volunteers who worked as guides and as hosts and hostesses. I would also like to thank Bert Lavoie and the Musée historique du Madawaska, the Faculty of Forestry of the Université de Moncton campus Edmundston, our guest



Studying flora at Halfway Depot with Gart Bishop

Photo by: Roy LaPointe

speakers: Don McAlpine, Lise Caron, Charles Neveu, Jim Goltz, Becky Whittam, Sean Blaney, Lewnanny Richardson and Carole LeBlanc, the sponsors too numerous to name, and all those who came and made the AGM weekend a success.

See you in Sussex in 2005.

TITRE HONORIFIQUE ACCORDÉ À DEUX DE NOS MEMBRES

Roland Robichaud

Bonjour,

En tant que président du Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne et porte-parole officiel de l'exécutif, il me fait plaisir que deux de nos membres aient été honorés à la fin mai à l'occasion de l'AGA de la Fédération des Naturalistes du N-B qui avait lieu à Edmundston.

Je suis extrêmement content que les personnes choisies soient des mordus de la nature, c'est-à-dire de vrais naturalistes. Aussi, par le fait même, ces personnes sont des vétérans de notre club, des bâtisseurs qui ont sans cesse appuyé le CNPA dans ses démarches pour faire grandir et croire en cette cause, tout en étant à la fois membre de l'exécutif, président(e), directeur des observations et j'en passe.

Ces personnes font partie du club depuis 1986. Cela veut donc dire qu'ils ont consacré 18 ans de leur vie à un passe-temps dans lequel ils croyaient énormément, et le plus beau, c'est qu'ils y croient encore.

Les premières années du club n'ont pas été faciles car tout était à penser et à préparer. Mais depuis ce jour, le Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne n'a jamais cessé de grandir. Aujourd'hui nous sommes fier d'être le club le plus actif de la province avec ses activités et sorties. Nous avons même passé le cap des 100 membres depuis quelques années.

J'aurais aimé faire partie de cette délégation de la Péninsule acadienne à Edmundston et de lire ce texte en personne à nos deux tourtereaux, car c'est grâce à eux que le club à aujourd'hui de bonnes racines et récolte de bons fruits.

Merci beaucoup et félicitation à **Rose-Aline et Hilaire Chiasson** pour votre beau travail.

Roland Robichaud
Président du C.N.P.A

A VERNAL POOL STUDY

Joe Yacovino

A group of students from Donald Fraser Memorial Elementary School participated in a study of a vernal pool in Nictau. Joe Yacovino led the group which also took part in CNF's Frog Watch program.

Three indoor sessions were first held during which the students learned to identify the frogs and toads of New Brunswick by sight and calls. Posters by NBFN and CNF were used along with frog calls taken off the internet.

Our fourth meeting was the actual field trip to a vernal pool where various invertebrates were sampled. Examples of some found were dragonfly nymphs, a waterboatman, a predaceous diving beetle, a red water mite and thousands of mosquito larvae. We were not

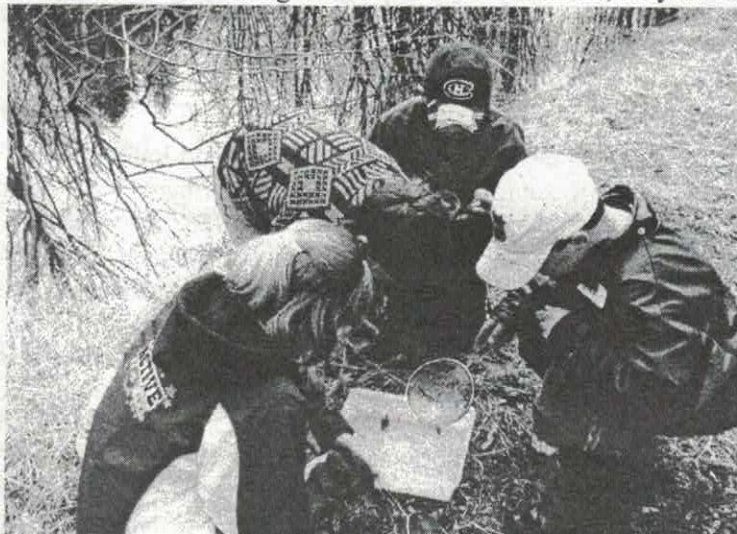
surprised to find the pond devoid of fish since it usually dries up in late summer. This made it a great place for Wood Frogs and Spring Peepers to lay their eggs. Temperature and water samples were taken. Because of the cold weather, only a few Wood Frog calls were heard.

The invertebrate samples were taken back to Black's Camp where microscopes and magnifiers were set up to aid in identification.

The pH of the water was determined and the problem of acid rain was introduced.

The kids were then treated to hot dogs and fries by Nita Black before heading back to school. One student was overheard saying "I want

to be a biologist some day."



NATURE NEWS: MAMMALS

APRIL TO JULY 2004

Mike LeBlanc

Jennifer Ritchie got the chance to observe a **Harbour Seal (Phoque commun)** in the Peticodiac River near the Superstore in Riverview on April 30. Also on April 30 Roy and Charlotte LaPointe saw a bat species (une espèce de chauve-souris) in Madawaska County. On May 1 they spotted a **Short-Tailed Weasel (Hermine)** and a **Porcupine (Porc-Épic d'Amérique)**. On May 12 David Christie also observed the **Harbour Seal** in Riverview. Nelson Poirier noticed a **Northern Flying Squirrel (Grand Polatouche)** feeding on a peanut-butter log at his home in Shediac Bridge. While Jim and Jean Wilson were birdwatching during an afternoon at Southwest Head on Grand Manan they were surprised to see a **Red Bat (Chauve-souris rousse)**. Jeannie Michaud, at McLeod Hill in Fredericton, has been receiving visits to her bird feeders from **Black Bears (Ours noir)**, a mother and a cub, which have even taken some feeders. While travelling on May 26 along the Renous - Plaster Rock highway to the AGM at Edmundston Bernadette and Mike LeBlanc saw a big bull **Moose (Orignal)** just get out of the path of an approaching truck. On the road back on May 30 they saw a **Black Bear** and another **Moose**. On May 31 Mike LeBlanc saw a **Red Fox (Renard roux)** running with a snowshoe hare in its mouth near Rexton. During the AGM many mammals were observed in Madawaska County as follows: **Little Brown Bat**

(**Petite Chauve-souris brune**), **Snowshoe Hare (Lièvre d'Amérique)**, **Eastern Chipmunk (Tamia rayé)**, **Red Squirrel (Écureuil roux)**, **Woodchuck (Marmotte commune)**, **Porcupine (Porc-Épic)**. (A pair of Moose made an appearance in the field next to the museum just before the departure of the field trips on Sunday afternoon. (fide Roy LaPointe.)) On June 7, while walking around La Source in Kouchibouguac National Park, Mike LeBlanc and Mariève Therriault got close to a **Black Bear**. On June 8 there were about 300 **Grey Seals (Phoques gris)** at Black Lands Gully in Kouchibouguac National Park. Nelson Poirier was very lucky (to the mammal editor) to see a **Pine Marten (Martre d'Amérique)** crossing Warwick Road about 20 km from Miramichi on July 3. This mammal seems to be increasing throughout the province in recent years.

Laurie Murison always sends great reports of marine mammals around Grand Manan. A **Humpback Whale (Baleine à bosses)**, one **Harbour Porpoise (Marsoin commun)** and about 20 **Harbour Seals** were seen during a whale-watching trip on June 18. **Finback Whales (Roqual commun)** have been starting to show up around Grand Manan, with **Minke Whales (Petit Rorqual)** and **Harbour Porpoise** at Long Eddy seen by Laurie Murison on July 19.

LYNX vs. BOBCAT

Dwayne Sabine

In December 2003, an incidentally-killed "bobcat" was given to the Department of Natural Resources and Energy (DNRE) in Edmundston. While the overall appearance of the cat suggested bobcat, close examination revealed some characteristics typical of lynx: large black ear tufts, large feet and a nearly-completely black-tipped tail. Tissue and hair samples were sent to a wildlife genetics laboratory at the Rocky Mountain Research Station of the US Forest Service (USFS), where it was confirmed that the cat was a hybrid resulting from a male bobcat-female lynx pairing. This was the first report of a hybrid bobcat-lynx in Canada, and only the sixth in North America. Following this discovery, Cade Libby (DNRE furbearer biologist) notified trappers of its existence. One trapper then

recalled an odd-looking lynx that he had accidentally caught in northern New Brunswick and turned in to DNRE in 1986. Because lynx specimens turned in to DNRE are deposited in the zoology collections at the New Brunswick Museum, Don McAlpine was able to extract tissue samples from this 18-year-old specimen for analysis by the USFS. The results indicated that this cat was also a hybrid resulting from a male bobcat-female lynx pairing. The other five known bobcat-lynx hybrids were reported from Maine and Minnesota. Both of these states are located on the transition zone between lynx and bobcat ranges in North America. The genetics analyses indicated that every one of these hybrids resulted from male bobcat-female lynx pairings, just as the New Brunswick hybrids.

NATURE NEWS: BIRDS

APRIL 1 to JULY 24, 2004

Ken MacIntosh

This was a fairly quiet season in terms of rare bird reports and large waves of migrants. Spring migration more resembled the steady trickle of fall, and then it was over much too soon.

Brian Dalzell noted one heavy migration at GMI, April 17, dominated by robins and grackles, consequences experienced over much of the province (see reports of Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Yellow-rumped Warbler). Judging by the number of reports received, April 22-25 and May 1-2 were also good migration days.

A number of usual spring and summer transients, such as White-winged Dove (*Tourterelle à ailes blanches*) and Glossy Ibis (*Ibis luisant*) were not reported. Other real rarities (Eared Grebe, Cinnamon Teal, Wilson's Plover, Painted Bunting) did not linger to be enjoyed.

There were scattered reports of **Snow Goose** (*Oie des neiges*) this year: April 10, in a marsh along Route 114 (Norm Belliveau et al.), April 11, in the Charlo area (MGD), April 15 at Quispamsis (Jack Higgins, *fide* JGW), and April 20 at Roachville (Jim Brown). Twenty appeared later at Gardner Creek, May 9 (MC). Alan Madden reports from Tide Head that Snow Geese arrived two weeks early, on April 8, peaking at about 1400 birds.

A **Eurasian Wigeon** (*Canard siffleur*) at Marsh Creek, Saint John, was first reported April 9 (Gilles Belliveau and Ruth Rogers) and stayed for several weeks. A probable Eurasian was reported the same day at Cap Brulé by J-S Guénette (later confirmed). A third was at Cape Jourimain, May 12 (Bev Schneider).

There was a fantastic sighting of **Cinnamon Teal** (*Sarcelle cannelle*) at McGowan's Corner, April 26 (Linda Kneebone, Judy Nason). Unfortunately, persistent efforts failed to relocate the bird.

A **Eurasian Green-winged Teal** (*Sarcelle européenne*) was discovered at Jemseg, April 30 (JGW).

A **Tufted Duck** (*Fuligule morillon*) was spotted April 25 at the Bouctouche SL (Louis-Emile Cormier, *fide* ML). By coincidence, we think, a Tufted Titmouse was seen the same day (see below).

The only report of **King Eider** (*Eider à tête grise*) for this spring was from Point Lepreau, April 19 (RB).

Ruddy Duck (*Érismature rousse*) has become quite regular in marshes of southeastern New Brunswick. A single was reported at Calhoun Marsh, April 25, by Gilles Bourque. Four pairs were at Shediac SL, May 10 (LEC). Eight were also at the Saint-Joseph SL, May 13 (Alain Clavette).

Alan Madden noted some very large gatherings of mergansers at Tide Head: 153 **Common Mergansers** (*Bec-scie commun*) on May 22, and 136 **Red-breasted Mergansers** (*Bec-scie à poitrine rousse*), May 8.

Alan Madden witnessed a gathering of 19 **Common Loons** (*Huart à collier*) at Eel River Headpond, June 3.

The first report of **Pied-billed Grebe** (*Grèbe à bec bigarré*) was at Campbellton, April 19 (MGD).

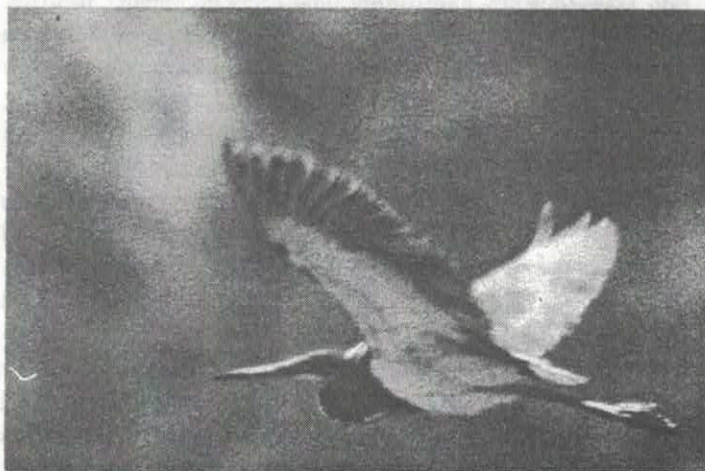
Alex Bond, Jenny MacWilliams and Bev Schneider were besieged by unusual grebes at Point Lepreau this spring. On April 21 they reported a pair of **Eared Grebes** (*Grèbe à cou noir*). Alex Bond later reported a **Western Grebe** (*Grèbe de l'Ouest*), April 23. The first New Brunswick record for Western Grebe was at Point Lepreau in 2001.

A spring crossing of the Bay of Fundy turned up a **Greater Shearwater** (*Puffin majeur*) and two Storm-petrels (*Océanites*), as well as 12 **Northern Fulmar** (*Fulmar boréal*). Later, a **Sooty Shearwater** (*Puffin fuligineux*) was noted during a whale-watching tour off GMI, June 18 (LM). One lonely **Greater Shearwater** was seen by Roger Guitard in Bay Chaleur on June 12.

A smelt's worst nightmare, 820 **Double-crested Cormorants** (*Cormoran à aigrettes*) were the most that Alan Madden has seen fly past Tide Head in one day for three decades.

Returning **American Bittern** (*Butor d'Amérique*) were first reported at Fredericton, April 22 (Ron Wilson).

Leading the parade of **Great Egrets** (*Grande Aigrette*) was an individual at Cap Brulé, April 23 (Gilles Bourque). A **Little Blue Heron** (*Aigrette bleue*) made a brief visit to Castalia Marsh, May 2 (BED). The



Tricolored Heron
Photo: Merv Cormier

season's first **Snowy Egrets (Aigrette neigeuse)** were reported April 24 at Saints Rest (JGW), and April 25 at Chance Harbour (Eileen Pike). Valmond Bourque had Great and Snowy together at Cap Brulé, May 9.

The only report of **Tricolored Heron (Aigrette tricolour)** was of an individual photographed at Saints Rest Marsh, Saint John, on June 22 by Merv Cormier. The **Green Heron (Héron vert)** is seldom reported for a large wading bird. One was seen June 6 in a pond, famous for its painted turtles, near the St. John River at Quarries (MC). Roger Guitard also saw a one along the Belledune River on June 25. Merv Cormier reported four **Black-crowned Night-Herons (Bihoreau gris)** at Castalia, GMI, May 17.

Marcel David became one of few to see a **Black Vulture (Urubu noir)** in New Brunswick when he spotted one at Miscou on July 17.

Osprey (Balbuzard pêcheur) had returned to Lower Jemseg by April 9 (Linda Kneebone, *fide* DG).

A **Golden Eagle (Aigle royale)** was reported north of St. Stephen, May 15 (Bev Schneider).

A **Red-shouldered Hawk (Buse à epaulettes)** was spotted at Blackville, April 23, by Bev Schneider, who also reported another which was seen June 27, by Diane Allain and Hal Dalzell.

The first report of **Broad-winged Hawk (Petite Buse)** came from the lower St. John River valley, April 25 (Allen Gorham, MC).

An **American Kestrel (Crécerelle d'Amérique)** was at Hammond River, April 7 (JGW). Five Kestrels and one **Merlin (Faucon émerillon)** were seen on a journey along Route 114, April 10 (Norm Belliveau et al.).

The first sighting of **Sora (Marouette de Caroline)** this season was at the backyard pond of Denis Doucet at Pelerin, May 5. Nice yard list addition!

On April 18, Jim Brown announced the return of **Sandhill Cranes (Grue du Canada)** to the Dykstra farm at Havelock, where they have been seen for six consecutive years. Less expected was a series of sightings in the Fredericton area: one was flying over the City on May 1 (DS), and another sighting was reported May 2 (Jim Berry, *fide* Jim Goltz). A series of reports from the Sheffield area followed, May 18 and 19. Yet more locations were Middle Sackville, where a crane was reported June 17 (Sean Basquil, *fide* Kathy Popma), and Rogersville, where a bird reported to Mike LeBlanc lingered in a resident's yard long enough for several birders to see it.

Mike LeBlanc reported a **Piping Plover (Pluvier siffleur)** already singing on the Bouctouche Dune, April 18. Three **Killdeer (Pluvier kildir)** were at McGowans Corner April 3 (JGW), widely reported thereafter. Ivy Austin of the Piper Project had a great look at a **Wilson's**

Plover (Pluvier de Wilson) on a beach at Rivière-du-Portage.

Greater Yellowlegs (Grand Chevalier) appeared at Hall's Creek, Moncton, on April 18 (J.S. Guénette). The **Solitary Sandpiper (Chevalier solitaire)** is normally a fall visitor in New Brunswick, so an adult on seemingly appropriate nesting territory near Minto, June 21, raised some interesting possibilities for Dwayne Sabine. **Spotted Sandpipers (Chevalier grivelé)** were found at Saint John, April 25 (KM) and at Marysville, April 27 (DS).

Denis Doucet added another nice yard list bird when an **Upland Sandpiper (Maubèche des champs)** appeared near his house at Pelerin. Another was spotted at Lower Jemseg, May 8 (KM).

The first report of **Least Sandpiper (Bécasseau minuscule)** was May 16, at Pelerin ((Denis Doucet). Marcel David had a number of record high spring tallies at his shorebird survey sites in the north-east, including 151 Least Sandpiper (May 22), 220 **Semipalmated Plover (Pluvier semipalmé)** on May 24, and 313 **Short-billed Dowitcher (Bécassin roux)**, May 23.

A **Pectoral Sandpiper (Bécasseau à poitrine cendrée)** was discovered at Wilkins Field, Fredericton, April 23 (Peter Pearce). Unusual spring **Dunlin (Bécasseau variable)** were at Waterside, April 18 (DSC, MM), and at Lower Jemseg, April 21 (DG). Marcel David later recorded a record 23 at la dune de Maisonette, May 24.

The first of the rare fall sandpipers arrived just in time for inclusion in this report: three **Stilt Sandpipers (Bécasseau à échasses)** were at Inkerman-Four Roads, July 24 (Marcel David).

April 7 was our earliest report of **Common Snipe (Bécassine des marais)**, found at Hammond River by Ian Cameron.

Wilson's Phalarope (Phalarope de Wilson) did not disappoint us this season: one was at Bloomfield (Ian Cameron), and two were at Lower Jemseg (Allen Gorham, MC), both reports on May 5. One was at Calhoun Marsh, May 17 (Ian Cameron) and another seen near Pointe-Verte on June 29 (Roger Guitard).

Less expected was a **Red-necked Phalarope (Phalarope à bec étroit)** which Alain Clavette found at McGinley SL, May 21. Completing the set, a **Red Phalarope (Phalarope à bec large)** was discovered at the Middle Sackville SL, May 23 (Sean Blaney, Becky Whittam). Another Red was seen at Tabusintac Dune, June 23, by the Siffleur team of Ivy Austin, Lewnanny Richardson, and Sabine Dietz.

Two **Laughing Gulls (Mouette atricille)** were at North Head May 30 (Laurie Murison). They were spotted around the island several times over the summer.

Laughing Gulls are seldom seen in the northeastern part of the province; however, Roger Guitard observed one while on a pelagic trip in Bay Chaleur on July 12. A **Black-headed Gull** (*Mouette rieuse*) was at Lancaster Sewage Lagoon April 7 (JGW). A first year bird was at Saints Rest, April 20 (JGW). Two **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** (*Goéland brun*) were at Maugerville, April 24 (DG). Two were also at the Superstore and gull convention centre in Riverview, May 12 (DSC). **Bonaparte's Gulls** (*Mouette de Bonaparte*) were early at Tide Head, May 26 (Alan Madden).

Bev Schneider reported a **Caspian Tern** (*Sterne caspienne*) at Black Duck Marsh, Lower Jemseg, May 25. On July 7, Mike LeBlanc and technicians studying mergansers at Kouchibouguac National Park, were able to confirm a suspicion formed in previous years, with the discovery of a **Black Tern** (*Guifette noire*) nest at a Common Tern (*Sterne pierregarin*) colony in the park.

A **Northern Hawk Owl** (*Chouette épervière*) was discovered by Pat Emond near Kedgwick, April 10 (*vide* MGD).

Chimney Swifts (*Martinet ramoneur*) were first noted at Sussex, May 11 (JGW).

The prize for this season's first **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** (*Colibri à gorge rubis*) goes to Tracey Dean, who found one at St. Andrew's, May 2. Julie Singleton reported on a male Ruby-throat which seemed to be completely at the mercy of his hormones. The feisty hummer "confronted the bright red throat patch of a male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker". The sapsucker apparently showed no greater sense of decorum, egging on the hummer by flashing the red patch.

After an unusually high number of sightings in autumn 2003, **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** (*Pic à ventre roux*) have become less conspicuous. One was at Marys Point, May 17 (DSC), another was at GMI (Roger Guitard et al.), May 18. A third showed up at Bouctouche, June 4 (Jean Paul and Stella LeBlanc). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Pic maculé*) was first reported at Fredericton Junction, April 12 (FG).

There were several reports of woodpeckers bringing young to feeders. Rudy Stoczek enjoyed watching an adult female **Hairy Woodpecker** (*Pic chevelu*) feeding cracked sunflower to fledglings.

A **Willow Flycatcher** (*Moucherolle des saules*) was a nice surprise at Paquetville, May 10 (Roger Dumaresq, Frank Branch). **Least Flycatcher** (*Moucherolle tchébec*) was first reported at St. Andrews, May 2 (Tracey Dean). The first **Eastern Phoebe** (*Moucherolle phébi*) reports were at Route 114, April 9 (Norm Belliveau, RAM), at Saint John, April 9 (Frank Kelly), and at Jemseg, April 10 (DG, Shirley Sloat).

A **Say's Phoebe** (*Moucherolle à ventre roux*) was a very nice find near Saint-Antoine, April 30 (Denis Doucet). The earliest **Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tritri*) report was of a pair at Saint John, May 1 (Ken MacIntosh).

A great early summer record for Miscou was a **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** (*Tyrannus à longue queue*) found there June 21 (Nicole Mercier, Jude Larocque).

Banding stations often turn up birds which are otherwise overlooked. So it was with a **White-eyed Vireo** (*Viréo aux yeux blancs*) captured at Kent Island in early June (*vide* Alain Clavette).

Blue-headed Vireo (*Viréo à tête bleue*) was at Point Lepreau, April 21 (Richard Blacquiére).

Tree Swallows (*Hirondelle bicolor*) were found at Brockway, April 7 (JGW), Grand Manan, April 9 (BED), Fredericton April 10 (Yvon Beaulieu), and along Route 114 (Norm Belliveau et al.), also April 10. While many of us in the south are wondering where all the Tree Swallows went, Alan Madden recorded a single flock of 500 at Tide Head on May 30, "the sixth consecutive day of cool windy weather."

Recently a fixture at Fredericton Junction, **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** (*Hirondelle à ailes*) appeared May 2 (FG). A pair of Northern Rough-winged Swallows observed by Roger Guitard near the Pointe-Verte sewage lagoon were thought to be nesting there again this year. **Cliff Swallows** (*Hirondelle à front blanc*) were first reported at GMI, April 30 (BED). **Barn Swallow** (*Hirondelle rustique*) arrived at GMI on April 18 (BED), and were noted at Point Lepreau, April 20 (Richard Blacquiére).

There was a tantalizing report of a **Tufted Titmouse** (*Mésange bicolor*) seen at St. George, April 25, by Hugh Parks. Unfortunately, the bird was not seen again.

A **Carolina Wren** (*Troglodyte de Caroline*) visited Tracey Dean's home near St. Andrews, May 23. Several **House Wrens** (*Troglodyte familier*) were located and seemed intent on staying. The earliest was found by Norm Belliveau at Scoudouc, May 29. Another, discovered at Hedley Lane by Allen Gorham, was present through most of June and July. A third singing male at Fredericton was assumed to be on territory July 10 (Blake Maybank, *vide* BED).

April 18 saw two independent reports of **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Roitelet à couronne*): by Jim Wilson at Point Lepreau, and Paul Mansz at Rothesay. They were reported the next day at Fredericton (DG).

The only reports of **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Gobemoucheron gris-bleu*) were at St. Andrews, May 2 (Tracey Dean), and at GMI (Roger Guitard et al.), May 18.

The first report of **Eastern Bluebird** (*Merlebleu de l'Est*) was of two pairs at Anagance, April 4 (Jim Brown). A **Hermit Thrush** (*Grive solitaire*) found something to sing about at Petit-Rocher Nord on April 14 (Marco Scichilone). The **Wood Thrush** (*Grive des bois*) has so declined from much of the province that observations generate quite a reaction. Two were singing at a hardwood forest reserve near Woodstock, July 13 (Jim Edsall).

Merv Cormier must have felt the birds were picking up on him, when he encountered three species of mockers (**Gray Catbird-Moqueur chat**, **Northern Mockingbird-Moqueur polyglotte**, and **Brown Thrasher-Moqueur roux**) in Lorneville, May 1. Oh, the indignity!

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Paruline à croupion jaune*) was first reported at St. Martins, April 19 (Nancy Sears). Reports came from Scoudouc (Norm and Giselle Belliveau), Kent County (ML), Memramcook (Yolande LeBlanc), and at Point Lepreau (RB), all on April 20.

An abnormally early **Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Paruline à gorge noire*) was at Hammond River, April 23 (JGW). **Pine Warbler** (*Paruline des pins*) was first noted at Fredericton, April 21 (Margaret Forster). Others appeared at feeders within a week. **Palm Warbler** (*Paruline à couronne rousse*) typically leads the return of spring warblers. Three were at Fish Head, GMI, April 17 (LM); Brian Dalzell reported Palms on the island the same day. **Black-and-white Warbler** (*Paruline noir et blanc*) was at Saint John, April 30 (KM).

Summer Tanager (*Tangara vermillon*) was an excellent find at White Head Island, May 23 (David Miller). A **Scarlet Tanager** (*Tangara écarlate*) caused widespread jealousy by visiting Frederica Givan's feeder at Fredericton Junction, May 4. A number of other reports followed on May 14 to 17.

Eastern Towhees (*Tohi à flancs roux*) made welcome spring appearances for Ngaire Nelson in Saint John, May 3, and Kate Bredin in Sackville, May 5.

Chipping Sparrow (*Bruant familier*) was reported at Edgetts Landing, April 20 (Dwayne Biggar). They had found their way to St. Gabriel April 21 (Mike LeBlanc), and to Campbellton by April 22 (MGD). A **Clay-colored Sparrow** (*Bruant des piaines*) was on Kent Island, June 2 (BED). A **Field Sparrow** (*Bruant des champs*) lingered for several days at a feeder at Cocagne, April 23 (LEC). Others were at Gagetown, May 1 (DG), visiting David Smith's feeder in Saint John, May 2, and at the Huntsman Marine banding site of Tracey Dean, May 23.

Vesper Sparrows (*Bruant vespéral*) were noted at Lower Jemseg April 24 (DG), and April 25 (Allen Gorham, MC). **Savannah Sparrow** (*Bruant des prés*) was first noted on GMI April 17 (BED).

Reports of **White-crowned Sparrow** (*Bruant à couronne blanche*) were fairly numerous, including two at Greenhead, Saint John, April 30 (KM), and one at David Smith's feeder in Saint John, May 1. They were also present at Fredericton Junction, May 1 (FG). An amazing 21 were at a feeder in St. Leonard, May 14 (Roy and Charlotte Lapointe).

Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (*Cardinal à poitrine rose*) were reported May 3, at Moncton (Bob Blake, MNC), and on the same day in St. Leonard (Roy and Charlotte LaPointe). A Grand Manan specialty, a **Blue Grosbeak** (*Guiraca bleu*) was at Bancroft Point, May 4 (BED).

There were many reports of **Indigo Bunting** (*Passerin indigo*) this season. The earliest was from the Moncton area, April 21 (Jerry Cormier, fide MNC). One of the best birds of the season was missed by the greater birding community. A **Painted Bunting** (*Passerin nonpareil*) had been visiting a feeder in Baie Ste Anne, but by the time the report was published in the New Brunswick Reader, the bird had moved on (fide JGW).

The first report of **Bobolink** (*Goglu des prés*) was of a group near Norton, May 12 (Frank Kelly). An **Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnelle des prés*) was at Welsford, April 8 (Don and Cathy Gibson). Reports of **Orchard Oriole** (*Oriole des vergers*) came from familiar southern locations: one was at Marys Point, May 1 (DSC), another at GMI (Roger Guitard et al.), May 18. When you set the table for birds, you have to accept what comes to dine: a group of 51 **Brown-headed Cowbirds** (*Vacher à tête brune*) in Roy LaPointe's yard must have been spectacular, if not entirely welcome.

A **Eurasian Siskin** caused a stir at Karen McCavour's feeder at Lorneville. While there are questions about its status (wild vagrant or released caged bird), it was much admired by observers.

Abbreviations: BED-Brian Dalzell, DG-Don Gibson, DS-Dwayne Sabine, DSC-David Christie, FG-Frederica Givan, GMI-Grand Manan Island, JGW-Jim Wilson, KM-Ken MacIntosh, LEC-Louis-Émile Cormier, LM-Laurie Murison, MC-Merv Cormier, MGD-Margaret Doyle, ML-Mike LeBlanc, MM-Mary Majka, MNC-Moncton Naturalists' Hotline, RAM-Rose-Alma Mallet, RB-Richard Blacquiére, SL-Sewage Lagoon

NATURE NEWS: INVERTEBRATES

MARCH 1 TO MAY 31, 2004

Dwayne L. Sabine

Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths)

One of the big surprises of the spring was the abundance of **Compton Tortoiseshells** (grande vanesse; *Nymphalis vaualbum j-album*). Although this species has been found throughout the province on occasion, it is usually quite rare. Reggie Webster reports that he typically sees only one of these butterflies each year, yet he found them on several occasions this spring, and saw six in one day at Charters Settlement on April 17. The first report of **Compton Tortoiseshells** came on the incredibly early date of March 14, when Don Gibson reported that Ann Slipp found two of these butterflies flying about inside the Queenstown Baptist Church. (This species overwinters as adults, and so is one of the first butterflies active in spring.) Ten days later, Janet Whitehead found a road-killed female, full of eggs, at Saint John. A short time later, on March 29, Benoit Clavette found one in the north of the province at Edmundston. Reports of **Compton Tortoiseshells** rolled in fairly regularly thereafter: Saint Leonard, April 9 (CL, RL); English Settlement, April 11, April 30 (JS); Charters Settlement, April 12, April 17 (RW); Chance Harbour, April 18 (EP); and Keswick Ridge, May 2 (JG).

The closely-related **Milbert's Tortoiseshell** (petite vanesse; *Nymphalis milberti*) is uncommon but is typically more abundant than the **Compton Tortoiseshell**. This year, however, **Milbert's Tortoiseshell** was noted less frequently than its rare cousin, with observations reported from Fredericton, March 30 (AWT); Marysville, March 31 (DS); English Settlement, April 12 (JS); Zealand, April 18 (VDG); Sussex, April 21 (MC); and Pelerin, May 1 (DD).

We have a number of species of **Commas** (polygone; *Polygonia* sp.) which also overwinter as adults and are commonly observed in early spring. Those identified to species and reported included: **Question Marks** (polygone à queue violacée; *Polygonia interrogationis*) at Lakeville Corner and the Fundy Trail on May 9 (MC); **Eastern Commas** (polygone virgule; *Polygonia comma*) at Lower Jemseg on May 1 (DG), Portobello Stream on May 7 (RW), and Marysville on May 10 (DS); **Satyr Anglewings** (polygone satyre; *Polygonia satyrus*) at Charters Settlement on April 12 and May 7 (RW) and Marysville on April 17 (DS) (interestingly, this species is known from only two localities in neighbouring Maine yet is found at a number of sites throughout New Brunswick according to Reggie Webster); **Green**

Commas (Polygone à taches vertes; *Polygonia faunus*) at Charters Settlement on April 12 and April 17 (RW); and **Gray Commas** (Polygone gris; *Polygonia progne*) at Charters Settlement on April 17 (RW).

American Painted Ladies (vanesse de Virginie; *Vanessa virginiensis*) were observed at Cape Jourmain, April 29 (ST, NB, GB, RAM); Charters Settlement, May 9 (RW); English Settlement, May 9 (JS); and Mary's Point, May 31 (RW), while the **Painted Lady** (belle dame; *Vanessa cardui*) was reported from Lorneville, May 12 (MC) and Fredericton, May 23 (MC, AG). These species are migrants which colonize the province from the south in most years but do not overwinter.

The inconspicuous little **Elfins** were not frequently reported this spring. Only two of our six species were reported: the **Brown Elfin** (lutin brun; *Callophrys augustinus*) at Keswick Ridge on May 2 (JG) and at Charters Settlement on May 7 (RW); and the **Eastern Pine Elfin** (lutin des pins; *Callophrys niphon clarki*) at Fredericton on May 20 (AWT).

Toward the end of this reporting period the Swallowtails started to make their appearance. Tony Thomas found a **Canadian Tiger Swallowtail** (papillon tigré du Canada; *Papilio canadensis*) at First Eel Lake on May 21, while Jim Goltz, Mary Pugh and Carl Munden observed one flying along the shore of the Meduxnekeag River near Jackson Falls on May 23. Jim Clifford found a fresh-looking **Black Swallowtail** (papillon du céleri; *Papilio polyxene asterius*) nectaring on dandelion in Restigouche County on May 24.

Tony Thomas found an impressive spring assemblage of butterflies at a sand plain in Fredericton on May 20: in addition to the Eastern Pine Elfin mentioned above, he also observed **Mourning Cloaks** (morio; *Nymphalis antipoo*), **Spring Azures** (azur printanier; *Celastrina ladon lucia*), **Dreamy Duskywings** (hespérie givrée; *Erynnis icelus*), **Meadow Fritillary** (boloria des prés; *Boloria bellona toddi*) and **Clouded Sulphur** (coliaide du trèfle; *Colias philodice*).

Moths, being largely nocturnal, are not reported nearly so often as butterflies despite their far greater number of species. An exception is the **Infant Moth** (intruse, *Archicaris infans*), a common, day-flying and brightly-coloured (orange and black) geometrid that is very evident in early spring. Reports this year included: English Settlement, April 9 (JS); Marysville, April 11 (DS); Fredericton, April 11 (JG, MT); Fredericton, April 12 (AWT); Pelerin, April 12, April 19 (DD) and Chance

Harbour, April 18 (EP).

The first reports of nocturnal moth activity came from Jean Renton, who observed several unidentified specimens flying around a light at Forks Stream on March 29. Nelson Poirier's first moths at his moth light in Shediac Bridge included a **Straight-toothed Sallow** (*Eupsilia vinulenta*) on April 18. On May 15, among the many moths at his light was his first hawk moth of the season, a **Blinded Sphinx** (sphinx aveugle; *Paonias excaecatus*). Tony Thomas, who has been operating a moth light at First Eel Lake to attract moths for photography, found many species flying on May 23 after a few days of warm weather: among them, and in good numbers, was the uncommon **One-eyed Sphinx** (sphinx du saule; *Smerinthus cerisyi*).

A final note regarding lepidopterans: Reggie Webster suggests that we should watch for the Variegated Fritillary (fritillaire panache, *Euptoieta claudia*). This southern species occasionally wanders north. Sightings in northern Maine this spring indicate that it might turn up in New Brunswick this year as well.

Odonata (Damselflies and Dragonflies)

Dragonflies finally made their appearance on May 17, when two recently-emerged Whitefaces (leucorrhine esp.; *Leucorrhinia* spp.) were found on a road near Dunbar Stream (DS). More recently-emerged Whitefaces (probably **Hudsonian Whiteface** - leucorrhine hudsonienne; *Leucorrhinia hudsonica*) were found on the grounds of the Forestry Complex in Fredericton on May 19 (DS). On the same day, Scott Makepeace visited a nearby marsh and found numerous recently-emerged Whitefaces as well as a very freshly-emerged damselfly of unknown species.

On May 20, Scott Makepeace visited a fen near Upper Gagetown and found a few **Four-spotted Skimmers** (quadrinaculé; *Libellula quadrimaculata*), as well as a two Hudsonian Whitefaces. Also on May 20, Tony Thomas found a Hudsonian Whiteface and three **Beaverpond Baskettails** (épithèque canine; *Epitheca canis*) at Fredericton.

Finally, Merv Cormier and Allen Gorham spied a dragonfly at Hyla Park in Fredericton on May 23 that, based on its description and the location, was almost certainly a female Hudsonian Whiteface.

Miscellaneous species

The first invertebrate report this spring came on March 5, when Connie Colpitts observed a group of Bohemian Waxwings flycatching high in the crown of a maple tree at Salisbury. The species that these birds were

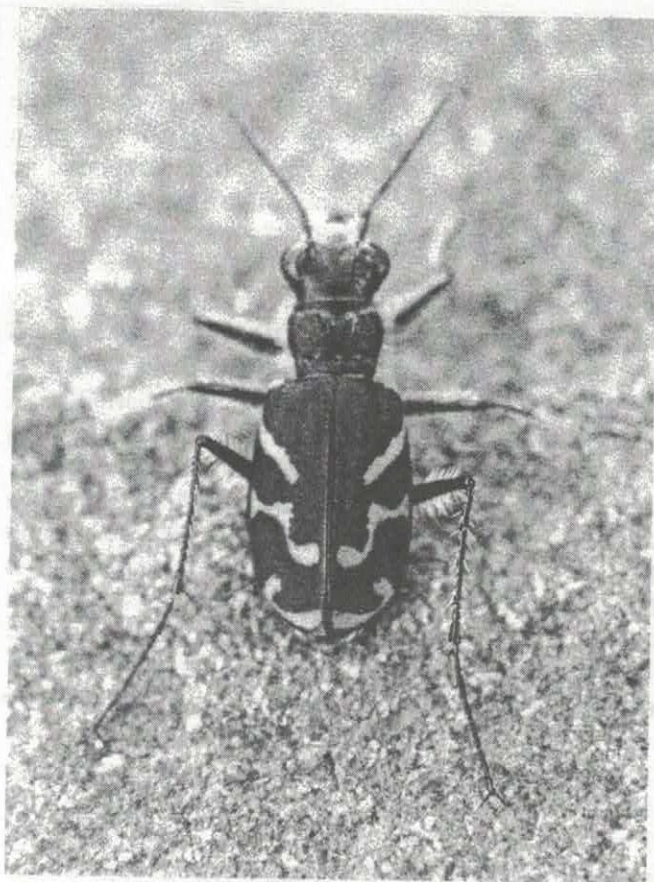
feeding on are unknown, but there are a few insects and other invertebrates active at this early time of year, as evidenced by several of the following observations.

On March 12, 13, and 21, Ron Wilson encountered **Snow Scorpionflies** (as well as a couple of unidentified flies and a spider) on the snow at the UNB Woodlot in Fredericton. Two species of Snow Scorpionflies (borée) occur here: *Boreus brumalis* and *Boreus nivoriundus*. On March 13 David Christie found another cold season specialist, a **Winter Crane fly**, at Mary's Point. **Snow Fleas** (collembole des neiges, puce de neige; *Hypogastrura nivicola*) were found during a Moncton Naturalists' Club feeder tour on March 13, and at Irishtown on March 30 (VB).

Winter Stoneflies (plécoptères d'hiver; Capniidae) were noted on the snow in several localities: Halls Creek, March 13 (MNC); Marysville, March 15 (DS); and Charters Settlement, March 25 (RW). Winter Stoneflies, or Capniids, are the most species-rich family of stoneflies in North America with more than 150 species (approximately 25% of all stonefly species). They are a relatively unknown group, with new ones discovered regularly - partly because of their habit of emerging during winter when most entomologists are not in the field. They also show a high degree of endemism, with many species being known from only a single watershed (Stark *et al.* 1998. American Stoneflies. The Caddis Press). One of the most interesting aspects of the life history of Winter Stoneflies is that the nymphs of all species appear to be hyporheic: they inhabit the water flowing beneath the bottoms of streams within the gravel and cobble substrate, where they feed on detritus. Nymphs have been found more than four metres below the stream bottom, and up to 50 metres inland from the edge of the stream!

A few Lady Beetles were reported this spring: a **Seven-spotted Lady Beetle** (coccinelle à sept points; *Coccinella septempunctata*) in a sand pit at Marysville on March 30 (DS), and **Southern Lady Beetles** (coccinelle asiatique multicolore; *Harmonia axyridis*), Seven-spotted Lady Beetle, and Two-spotted Lady Beetle (coccinelle à deux points; *Adalia bipunctata*) at Pelerin on May 3 (DD). (Some of you may be interested in the national Lady Beetle survey being coordinated by the Canadian Nature Federation: see <http://cnf.ca/beetle/> for details.)

Oblique-lined Tiger Beetles (cicindèle à ligne oblique; *Cicindela tranquebarica*) appeared in a sand pit at Marysville on April 17 (DS), apparently an early record for any tiger beetle species in the province. **Common Shore Tiger Beetles** (cicindèle commune; *Cicindela repanda*) appeared on the shores of the nearby Nashwaak River on May 2 (DS). On May 2, **Common Shore Tiger Beetles** and **Twelve-spotted Tiger Beetles**



Oblique-lined Tiger Beetle

Photo by: Dwayne Sabine

(cicindèle à 12 points; *Cicindela duodecimguttata*) were found on a sand beach on Magaguadavic Lake (DS, RW).

Jim Clifford found a **Red Net-winged Beetle** (*Dictyopterus aurora*) at Restigouche County on May 24. This large, showy species is fairly common in damp forested habitats, where it feeds on decaying wood.

For the past several years Reggie Webster has been looking for **Ground Beetles** (Carabidés; Carabidae), a relatively well-known beetle group which has nonetheless yielded over 40 new species for the province to him. Last year he turned his attention to **Predaceous Diving Beetles** (Dytiscidés; Dytiscidae). This year Reggie has decided to begin an attempt to find all of the beetle species present in New Brunswick - a monumental task considering that we are estimated to have more than 3000 species, and hundreds of them are tiny ones that can only be identified with great care and with high magnification. With so many species, beetles can be found almost anywhere, so the start of his quest did not require traveling long distances: on April 12 Reggie found approximately 20 species of beetles, including **Rove Beetles** (Staphylinidés; Staphylinidae), **Ground Beetles**, **Weevils** (Curculionidés; Curculionidae), **Flea Beetles** (Chrysomélidés; Chrysomelidae), **Darkling Beetles**

(Ténébrionidés; Tenebrionidae) and **Pill Beetles** (Byrrhidés; Byrrhidae). Then, on April 23 Reggie found 75 species of Rove Beetles while sifting leaf litter in his back yard! On April 29 he found another 32 species of Rove Beetles rooting through his compost bin. This may sound like a good start, but there are over 1500 species of Rove Beetles known from northeastern North America, with perhaps 600 of them occurring here. Reggie reports that approximately one in four beetles he finds here is a species not known to occur in New Brunswick.

Following is an interesting but perhaps unpleasant example of the variety of habitats where beetles can be sought out: a few minutes observation of dog droppings in a backyard at Marysville on May 16 revealed an incredible variety and abundance of individuals (DS). A large cluster of 15-20 **American Carrion Beetles** (silphe d'Amérique; *Silpha americana*), whose larvae feed on carrion or animal droppings, were busy mating. They were joined by a few of their smaller relatives, the **Crusader Carrion Beetles** (silphe marginé; *Oiceoptoma noveboracensis*). Also present were two large, brown-coloured Rove Beetles with bright, golden tips to their abdomens: *Ontholestes cingulatus*. This species is a predator, carefully stalking and preying on the smaller beetles and flies that are busy feeding. A number of **Dung Beetles** (*Onthophagus nuchicornis*) were busy burrowing within the droppings. There were also several tiny species of Rove Beetles and Hister Beetles (Histeridés; Histeridae) present: their small size made very close observation necessary - hence they went unidentified!

Gart Bishop found several interesting marine invertebrates while diving at New River Beach on May 1-2: four species of sea stars, sea cucumbers, crabs, snails, jellyfish, and sea slugs. It would be interesting to receive more reports of marine or coastal species.

Ticks seem to be quite rare in New Brunswick, perhaps thankfully given that some species carry diseases that can affect humans. Two reports came in this spring: a **Winter Tick**, a.k.a. Moose Tick (tique d'hiver ou tique du wapiti; *Dermacentor albipictus*) that was found crawling on a desk at the Department of Natural Resources in Fredericton on May 7; and a **Black-legged Tick**, a.k.a. Deer Tick (tique occidentale à pattes noires; *Ixodes scapularis*) that was found crawling on a dog at Fundy National Park on May 31 (TH). The former species is commonly found on moose in early spring, while the latter is found on a variety of mammals and is a vector of Lyme disease.

The most interesting report this season had to be Tony Thomas's discovery of a **Linnaeus' Seventeen-year Cicada** (*Magicicada septendecim*) at his moth light at First Eel Lake on May 3. Periodic cicadas are known

in Canada from only a few sites in extreme southwestern Ontario. There are seven species of periodic cicadas in North America: four of these species have 13-year life cycles, while three have 17-year life cycles. The larvae live in the ground, sucking fluids from plant roots for nourishment. Their emergence is synchronized so that in a given area there are no adults present in the 12-16 years between emergences. However, cicadas in different regions are not synchronized, so that in most years there are 17-years cicadas emerging somewhere in North America. Each year's emergence is known as a brood, and is designated with a Roman numeral. Altogether there are 12 broods of 17-year cicadas, so there are five year-classes without adult cicadas emerging. The largest brood of all - Brood X - emerged in May 2004 in several mid-Atlantic and mid-west states. Periodic cicadas can reach densities of up to 3.7 million per hectare, and their emergence is apparently quite an event because of the endless din of their calling, their countless numbers

crawling over trees and houses, and their carcasses covering roads and yards (which apparently cause many dogs and cats to gorge themselves....). Tony's cicada probably hitched a ride to New Brunswick, since a person visiting First Eel Lake from Pennsylvania reported to Tony that his lawn was pockmarked with their emergence holes shortly before he left to drive here.

Abbreviations: AG Allen Gorham, AWT Tony Thomas, CL Charlotte LaPointe, DD Denis Doucette, DG Don Gibson, DMcL Dave McLeod, DS Dwayne Sabine, EP Eileen Pike, GB Gisèle Belliveau, GaB Gart Bishop, JG Jim Goltz, JS Julie Singleton, MC Merv Cormier, MNC Moncton Naturalists Club; MS Mary Sabine, MT Maureen Toner; NB Norm Belliveau, RAM Rose-Alma Mallet, RP Roy LaPointe, RW Reggie Webster, SM Scott Makepeace, ST Stu Tingley, TH Trisha Holland, VB Vivian Beale, VDG Dedreic Grecian.

Maybe you weren't meant to be a birder if:

You do most of your birdwatching through the scope of a rifle.

You spend an inordinate amount of time wondering what Chimney Swifts were called before the advent of chimneys.

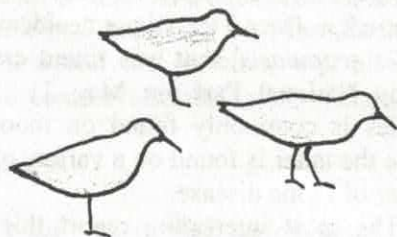
You embarrass an entire group as you mis-understand the leader when he says that birds can be lured out of hiding, by "pssshing".

You over-simplify shorebird identification by dividing them into two groups - Knots and not Knots.

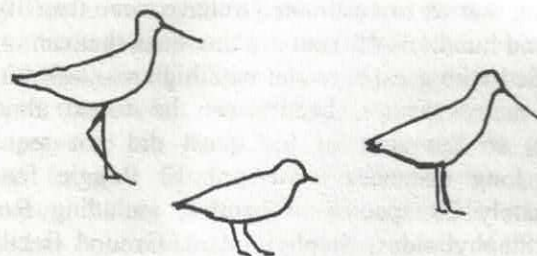
The name "Red-necked" Grebe has a curious appeal to you, in fact you have been heard using the term "Bubba-link" for a certain bird of the meadows.

You ruined the "chickadee pudding" by putting in too many chickadees.

You are obsessed with finding a bird yet unknown to science so that you can have a species named after you and become as famous as - well let's say as famous as the Wilsons.



Knots



Not Knots

BOTANY RAMBLINGS: PHOTOGRAPHS OF RARE PLANTS MAY TO JUNE, 2004

James P. Goltz

Computer problems have forced me to come up with a different format for this botany report. A more detailed report will follow in the next issue of the N.B. Naturalist. Thanks to all who kindly sent in these photographs and helped me generate a report for this issue!

In late May, Sara Richard came across this very unusual plant of **Trout Lily** (*Erythronium americanum*) along the Nashwaak River near Stanley. Instead of having typical uniform bright yellow tepals (sepals and petals), the tepals of this plant bore large patches of **dark reddish-brown colour**. According to the 9th edition of *Gray's Manual of Botany*, Trout Lily can sometimes have chestnut-coloured tepals. The Trout Lily is one of the most familiar wildflowers to New Brunswickers, who often refer to these flowers as "Dog-toothed Violets". The most extreme variation that is usually encountered in this province is the anther colour, with some plants having deep red anthers and others with bright yellow anthers. An even more intriguing report came from the Restigouche River, where Karl Heinstein was shown a white-flowered Trout Lily that lacked speckling on the leaves and had spreading styles. Could this be the **White Trout Lily** (*Erythronium albidum*), a species that occurs no closer than southern Ontario (excluding a population that was transplanted to southern Connecticut and has become naturalized there)? An excursion to this site is planned for next spring.

On June 5, Jim Clifford found the rare and exotic orchid **Calypso** (*Calypso bulbosa*) growing beneath older growth cedars and other softwoods at two sites located south of Dalhousie. He also found **Heart-leaved Twayblade** (*Listera cordata*) at one location, while **Nodding Trillium** (*Trillium cernuum*) grew near the other site. Calypso has declined from much of its former range in eastern Canada, mainly because of loss of the old growth cedar wetlands and forests that it prefers. First encounters with Calypso are often so profound that even grown men have been overcome with emotion and driven to tears of joy.

Charles Neveu kindly volunteered to show me his botanical hotspots on Irving freehold land in the Black Brook area on June 19, after I expressed my disappointment about not being able to join the New Brunswick Botany Club foray there on June 12. Among the many rare plants (e.g., **Small Round-leaved Orchid**, **Lapland Buttercup**, **Northern Adder's-tongue Fern**, etc.) already known to Charles, we met up with a few

surprises. In a small opening in a wet calcareous cedar swamp, we found a few plants of **Fringed Polygala** (*Polygala paucifolia*) growing on a mound of wet moss. This species is considered to be very rare in New Brunswick, was previously only known from the southern 1/3 of the province, and is usually found in coniferous to mixed woods, not swamps.

While checking out old "log yards", areas where cut logs are piled until they are hauled off to the mill, we came across several stands of the very rare **Sitka Club-moss** (*Diphasiastrum sitchense*) growing with at least seven other species of Club-mosses. The Sitka Club-moss is very diminutive, unlike the huge tree-like Club-mosses that are now merely preserved as fossils but used to dominate the landscape of New Brunswick when dinosaurs roamed the earth.

The main reason I wanted to visit Black Brook was to check out the Grape Ferns that excited the New Brunswick Botany Club during the June 12 foray. Never before have I seen so many Grape-ferns in one day. Hundreds to thousands of these plants, ranging in size from rarely 2 cm. to over 15 cm. tall, were seen growing along roadsides and in abandoned log yards. Most common were the **Daisy-leaved Grape-fern** (*Botrychium matricariifolium*) and **Little Grapefern** (*Botrychium simplex*), along with a number of perplexing plants presumed to be their hybrids. At our last stop, just before a torrential downpour struck, Charles spotted something different, a plant of the very rare **Mingan Moonwort** (*Botrychium minganense*). A careful search around low cedars in rocky substrate near the edge of the road revealed the legendary **Moonwort** (*Botrychium lunaria*), a species that had never before been confirmed for the province; a collection of a moonwort-like plant from Sagamook Mountain had been annotated as a "shade form" of this species by Wagner, but Hal Hinds and I were not happy with the determination. I had been trying to find Moonwort in New Brunswick for 19 years, since it was well known from all around us – from the Gaspé Peninsula, Quebec; Fort Kent, Maine; Halifax, Nova Scotia; and the Great Northern Peninsula, Newfoundland. We had stopped here so Charles could show me Bird's-

eye Primrose (*Primula mistassinica*) growing on a mossy log in a calcareous cedar swamp, a rather unusual departure from the typical seepy sites on rocky river outcrops. The primrose eluded us, but we were elated to catch up with the Moonwort. Congratulations, Charles!

As darkness was setting in on the evening of June 29, Charlotte LaPointe asked her husband Roy to stop the car and back up so she could check out a clump of white flowers. Although Roy expected to see "a bunch of dandelion heads in seed", Charlotte raised her binoculars and gave an excited yell when her flowers turned out to be **Showy Lady's-Slippers** (*Cypripedium reginae*). These spectacular rare orchids were found growing near

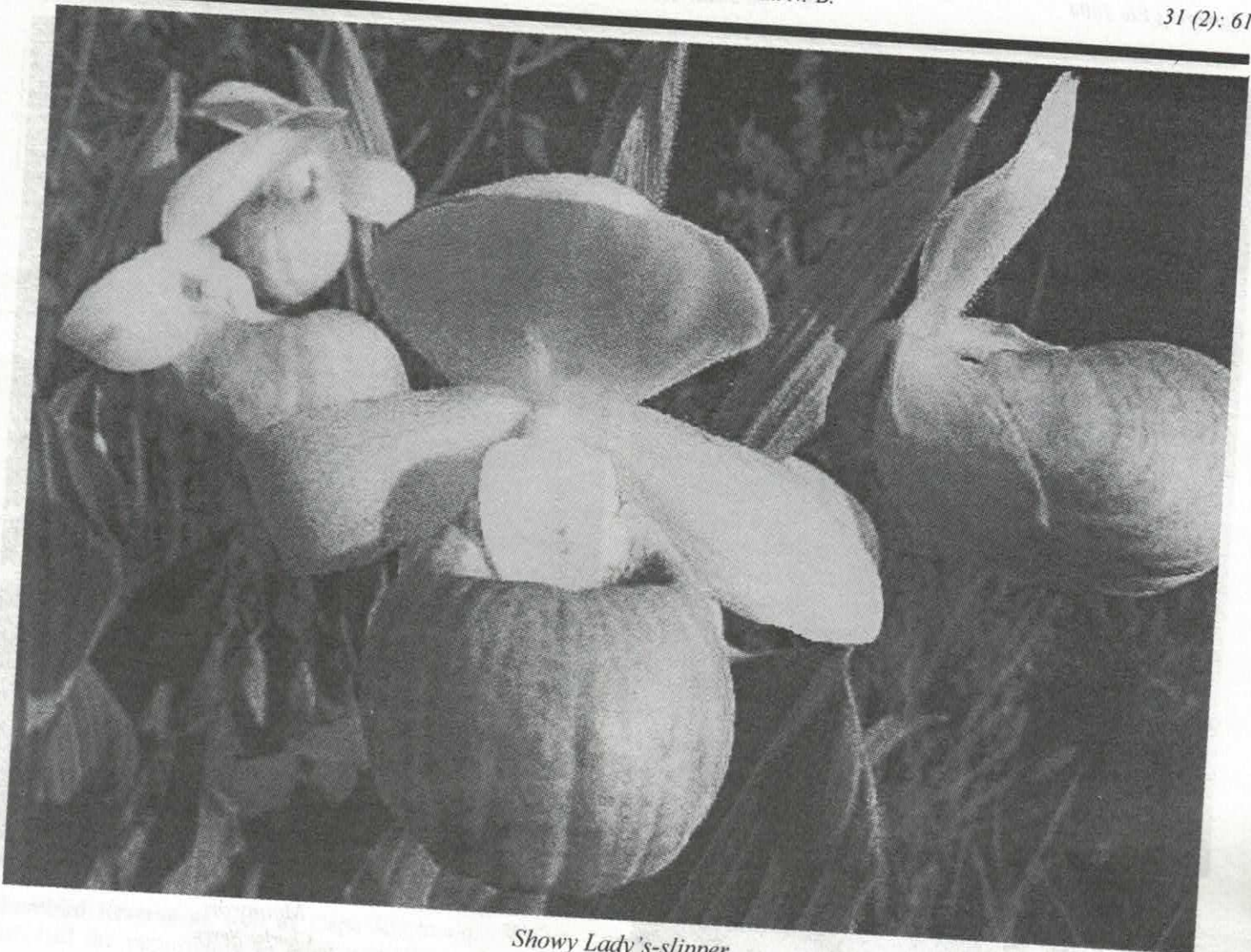
St. Leonard, but the LaPointes are prudently keeping the exact location secret in order to ensure that wildflower lovers aren't tempted to pick or transplant them.

On July 1, Royce Steeves kindly took a small group of us to see the **Downy Rattlesnake-plantains** (*Goodyera pubescens*) that he had discovered last fall near Elgin, New Brunswick. This is the only location where this orchid species is known to occur in New Brunswick. What an exciting way to spend Canada Day! This species is readily identified from other Rattlesnake-plantain species by its bluish-green leaves that bear a broad central white stripe and many fine reticulations, as well as by its tendency to be colonial.



Downy Rattlesnake-plantain

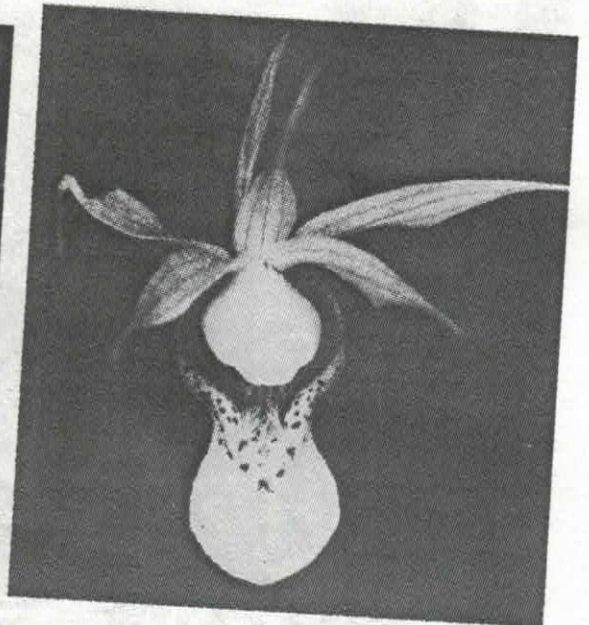
Photo by: a friend of the NB Naturalist



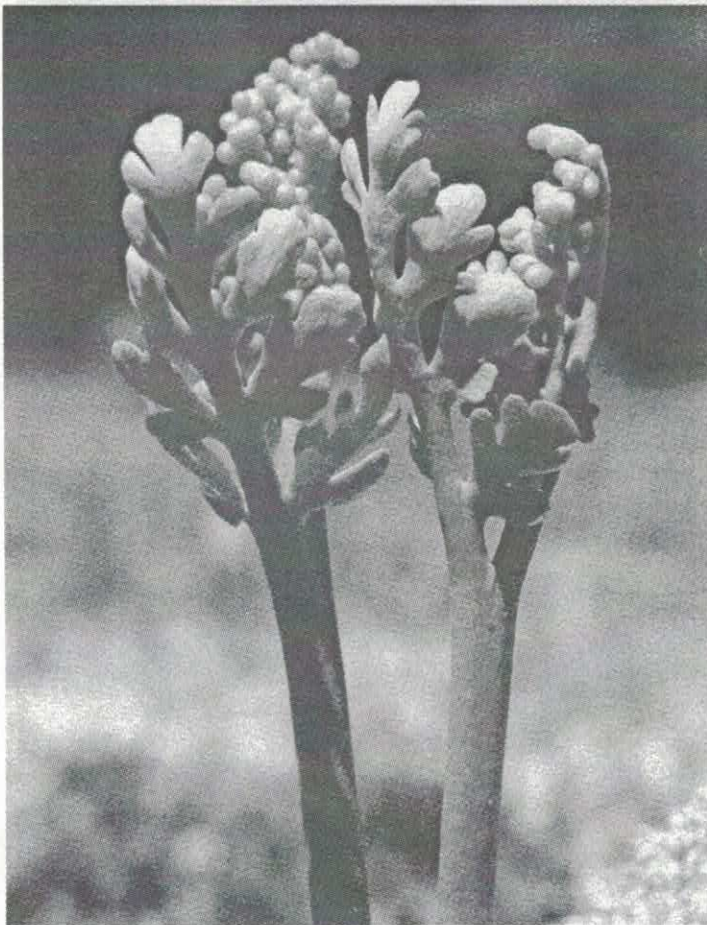
Showy Lady's-slipper
Photo by: Roy LaPointe



Fringed Polygala
Photo by: Charles Neveu



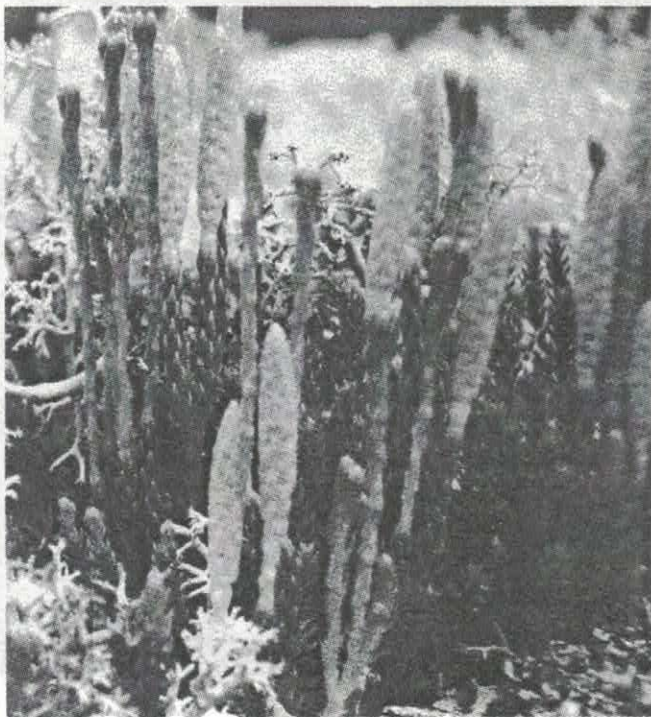
Calypso
Photo by: Jim Clifford



Daisy-leaved Grapefern
Photo by: Dwayne Sabine



Moonwort
Charles Neveu



Sitka Club-moss
Photo by: Charles Neveu



Aberrant Trout Lily
Photo by: Sara Richard

SUMMER YOUTH NATURE CAMPS 2004 CAMPS D'ÉTÉ JEUNESSE NATURE 2004

Jessica Prentice, Nature Educator / Éducatrice de la nature

The NBFN Summer Youth Nature Camps (SYNC) welcomed another season of fun in the sun. For the third consecutive summer, the SYNC nature educators have worked hard to prepare an assortment of programs and activities to peak kids' curiosity and get them interested in the wonders of our natural world.

Thus far our campers have trailed through forest and tramped along sea shore to investigate these diverse ecosystems and the distinct creatures they house. At the Huntsman Marine Science Centre in St. Andrews we've had the great opportunity to sail out into the bay and catch some jelly fish as well as a few bottom dwellers such as sea stars, urchins and cucumbers, snails and crabs, which we brought back to the lab for further examination. We've also had activities involving weather and cloud identification, water cycles, butterflies, whales, evolution of species, endangered species, and a beach clean-up as part of the trail restoration of Sam Orr's Pond with the Nature Trust of New Brunswick. An expert astronomer gave us a magical tour of the night sky. We also had a great opportunity to visit an archeological dig at one of the ancient Passamaquoddy people's campsites. In addition, the Moncton site for the SYNC provided us with access to the Marys Point Shorebird Reserve as well as Cape Jourimain. We've also had the opportunity to meet with a mycologist as well as visit the leopard frog monitoring facility at Environment Canada.

The English camps in St. Andrews ran from July 18 to the 23 (ages 9 to 11) and from August 15 to 20 (ages 11 to 14). Our French camp was held in Moncton from August 22 to 27 (ages 9 to 13).

If you are interested in participating in the SYNC, either as a volunteer or a camper, please contact us now so that we can put you on our mailing list for next year.

Thanks to everyone who helped make these camps happen; your hard work is ever lasting ☺.

Phone: (506) 459-4209
Email: Federation@naturenb.ca
URL: www.naturenb.ca

Les Camps d'Été Jeunesse Nature (CÉJN) de la FNNB ont accueilli une autre saison de plaisir au soleil. Pour la troisième été consécutive, les éducateurs des CÉJN ont travaillé fort pour offrir une panoplie de programmes et d'activités afin de piquer la curiosité et l'intérêt des jeunes envers le monde naturel qui les entourent.

À date, les campeurs ont découvert les écosystèmes des forêts, des plages et des océans à la recherche des créatures qui y vivent. Au Centre de Sciences Marins Huntsman à St. Andrews, nous avons eu la chance de naviguer la Baie et d'y retirer des spécimens tels que les méduses, étoiles, oursins et concombres de mer, limaces et crabes que nous avons ensuite rapporté au laboratoire afin de les examiner de plus près. Un astronome nous a transporté sur un voyage au soleil puis aux étoiles. Nous avons aussi participé à des activités ayant rapport à la météorologie, au cycle de l'eau, aux baleines, à l'évolution des espèces, aux espèces en péril ainsi que la participation à la restauration de Sam Orr's Pond en ramassant les déchets sur la piste et la plage qui l'entour. Au même endroit, nous avons visité un site archéologique où vivaient les amérindiens de la Baie de Passamaquoddy. De plus, le site du camp de Moncton nous a permis de visiter la Mary's Point Shorebird Réserve ainsi que Cape Jourimain. Nous avons aussi eu la chance de rencontrer un mycologiste ainsi que visiter les expériences et suivi des grenouilles léopard au centre d'Environnement Canada.

Le camp anglophone à St-Andrews était du 18 au 23 juillet (9 à 11 ans) et du 15 au 20 août (11 à 14 ans). Le camp francophone avait lieu à Moncton le 22 au 27 août (9 à 13 ans).

Si vous êtes intéressés à participer aux CÉJN, soit en étant bénévole ou pour envoyer un campeur, veuillez nous contacter maintenant pour que nous puissions vous ajouter sur notre liste de contacts pour l'année prochaine.

Un gros merci à tout ceux qui ont contribué à ces camps ; votre travail est grandement apprécié ☺.

Téléphone: (506) 459-4209
Courriel: Federation@naturenb.ca
URL: www.naturenb.ca



NEWS FOR NATURALISTS / NOUVELLES POUR LES NATURALISTES

Sabine Dietz

New Brunswick Botany Club

The New Brunswick Botany Club has some late summer and fall field trips planned that might be of interest:

August 28: Aquatic plants of the lower St. John River, with Gert Bishop;

September 11: Canoe the Caanan, with Sean Blaney;

October 2: Lichens and bryophytes at Barnaby Head, with Stephen Clayden and Bruce Bagnell;

November 6: AGM & Bryophytes: Plants in the miniature with Kate Frego in Fredericton.

For further information contact Darla Saunders: darla.saunders@natureconservancy.ca

Nature Trust of New Brunswick

The following events are planned for this fall:

Saturday October 16, join the Nature Trust of New Brunswick for 'Photography-by-the-Sea': A one-day workshop with Alison Hughes in St. Andrews. Cost: \$60 (\$50 for NTN members). 10:00am to 4:00pm. This workshop is for all ages and experience levels and offers a fun hands-on approach to photographing the tidal shore in St. Andrews. Contact Heather at 457-2398 or ntnb@nbnet.nb.ca

Annual General Meeting and fieldtrip: September 24 and 25, (field trip to Thomas Munro Shoreline). Location: Marathon Inn, Grand Manan. Contact Jamie at 529 3003 or jamies@ntnb.org

Nature Conservancy of Canada

Musquash Meander – September 25, 2004: The Nature Conservancy of Canada is organizing a nature walk in the Musquash River estuary (25 minutes west of Saint John). Musquash has been identified as the last fully functioning estuary in the Bay of Fundy and has been nominated as one of Atlantic Canada's first Marine Protected Areas. The Nature Conservancy of Canada is engaged in a conservation program in Musquash. To register for this free event, please contact Darla Saunders at 506-450-6010 or darla.saunders@natureconservancy.ca

Point Lepreau Bird Observatory

The observatory will commence its annual fall migration observations on Sunday, September 12. They will run until November 13. If you are interested in participating as a volunteer, or would just like to spend some time observing migrating birds moving through the Bay of Fundy, please contact Eileen Pike at pike@unbsj.ca

Book early, since the schedule is being developed well in advance and the organizers need to provide the names of visitors at least 48 hours in advance to the security officials at Point Lepreau.

Parks and People Program

Nature Canada (formerly Canadian Nature Federation), in cooperation with **Parks Canada**, will start to provide funding in 2005 to naturalist organizations to deliver activities (outdoor hikes, walks, nature watch programs, etc.) to children. If you have a good idea, and are looking for some financing, contact the organization: www.cnf.ca, or call 1-800-267-4088.

In New Brunswick, three organizations are actively engaged in helping landowners protect their land. All three have offices in Fredericton.

The Nature Trust of New Brunswick, which has a mandate for the entire province, concentrates much of its stewardship efforts presently in the Saint John River valley and Charlotte County. The Trust receives land donations, accepts easements, bequests, voluntary stewardship agreements and acquires land for conservation. For information: <http://www.naturetrust.nb.ca/>

The Nature Conservancy of Canada works to protect ecologically significant land. It accepts land donations, purchases properties and negotiates conservation easements around the province. For information: www.natureconservancy.ca

The Community Land Trust is primarily interested in the conservation of land that is being worked (the working landscape). It accepts land donations and holds conservation easements for woodlands and agricultural lands that are managed in a sustainable manner. The Community Land Trust also holds land of community significance (recreational, cultural) so that it will remain in the public domain and continue to reflect and provide community values. For information: <http://www.nbclt.org/main.htm>

Note: please send any newsworthy items to / Veuillez envoyer vos soumissions pour cette section à :
Sabine Dietz corvus@nbnet.nb.ca

GRAND LAKE MEADOWS VASCULAR PLANT INVENTORY

Marieka Arnold, Executive Director

As our team of four found out this summer, the Grand Lake Meadows (GLM) is a diverse and significant wetland. Prior to the fieldwork, planned for this year and next, surprisingly little work had been published on the flora of the GLM and thus the area did not present a satisfactory picture of its vascular plant diversity and associated conservation issues.

Our strategy has been to obtain and piece together aerial photographs, topographic maps, and forest stand surveys of the GLM. We then spend full days, or parts thereof, visiting representative plant communities. These sites have included lakes, field margins, Silver Maple floodplains, riverbanks, sedge meadows, and marshes. We collect data by listing all the species we find in each community. Those that are unidentifiable in the field or worthy of further documentation we collect, pinpoint the location with our GPS, and process in the herbarium.

Within our first week, we experienced canoe portages that can be best described as a cross between mud-wrestling and a tug-of-war. We also struggled in stagnant muddy marsh waters that pulled us down to waist-height submersion. We battled mosquitoes and significantly raised the likelihood of being infected by the West Nile Virus.

Despite the apparent gruelling assignment, we have spent some precious time in part of the largest wetland complex in the Maritimes. We have canoed to places that seem completely untouched by humans. We have enjoyed the bliss that accompanies naturalists when the

only sounds they hear are birds and the splash as the paddle glides through the water. We have botanised to our hearts' delight! This is truly a beautiful and most significant part of our province.

The project is one of a number supported by the Grand Lake Meadows Project Management Committee Fund. This fund was created with money set aside from the construction in 1996 of the provincial highway running through the GLM, to be used for local conservation projects.

During this summer and that of 2005 the NBFN will conduct a further vascular plant inventory within the Grand Lake Meadows. The information garnered will be used to complete a project report. Collected specimens will be distributed between the UNB and NB Museum herbariums.

An image-rich educational program for youth and adult community groups in the Grand Lake Meadows area will be developed in 2005. This conservation education program will include a brochure, poster, CD with digital images and presentations to schools and community groups surrounding the study area. The educational component will be made available to other individuals and groups throughout the province when requested.

For more information on visiting the Grand Lake Meadows or on this project, contact Maria Papoulias or myself at the Fredericton office, or Gert Bishop and Sabine Dietz of B&B Botanicals.

Please join the New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists Inc. to help educate people in our province about our natural heritage, to learn about, and to protect New Brunswick's flora and fauna, and its ecosystems.

Yes, I/we would like to support the New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists Inc.!

Included my/our support for *:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young Naturalists Club | _____ \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Summer Camps | _____ \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Piper Project/ Projet Siffleur | _____ \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mary's Point Interpretive Centre | _____ \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship Fund | _____ \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified | _____ \$ |

Membership (not eligible for a receipt):

- | | |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20 | _____ \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25 | _____ \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership \$1000 | _____ \$ |

Cheque enclosed: _____ \$

* The New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists Inc. is a registered charity #89017971RR0001. Please ask for a receipt for donations under \$15.

Name: _____

Other Family members: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail to: The N.B. Federation of Naturalists Inc.
Jim Wilson, membership secretary
2 Neck Road, Quispamsis NB E2G 1L3
E-mail: jgw@nbnet.nb.ca

FEDERATION NEWS - NOUVELLES DE LA FÉDÉRATION

Sabine Dietz, Mike LeBlanc

Over the last ten months, major changes have taken place regarding the operation of your organization. During the Annual General Meeting in Edmundston in May, by-law changes were approved permitting the creation of the Executive Director position within the NBFN, now occupied by Marieka Arnold. Your Board of Directors met in January to discuss some strategic goals for the organization, emphasizing our focus on education and conservation, and the continuation of our programs, including: Marys Point Interpretation Centre, Piper Project, youth and adult education (including Summer Youth Nature Camps, NB Young Naturalists Club, educational materials). Several new policies were developed concerning: accounting, language, privacy, and an internal operations. In addition, the by-laws have been translated to comply with our language policy. Program guidelines and fundraising guidelines have been in place for a while.

Last, the official tradename "Nature NB" was adopted during the AGM. This tradename does not replace the NBFN name, but it gives us an opportunity to work on a better "branding" of our organization.

For information on any of these changes, please contact Mike LeBlanc (President), or Marieka Arnold (Executive Director).

Pendant les derniers dix mois, plusieurs changements ont été fait à l'opération interne de votre organisation. Pendant l'assemblée générale annuelle à Edmundston, certaines lois ont été changées et ajoutées, permettant la création du poste de la directrice générale. Ce poste est occupé par Marieka Arnold. Votre conseil d'administration s'est réuni en janvier afin de discuter les buts stratégiques de la FNNB. On continue à mettre l'accent sur l'éducation et la conservation avec les programmes suivants: centre d'interprétation de Marys Point, Projet Siffleur, éducation des jeunes et adultes (Camps d'été jeunesse nature, le club de jeunes naturalistes du N-B, matériaux éducatifs). Plusieurs nouvelles politiques ont été mises en place: concernant le fonctionnement interne, la comptabilité, la vie privée, et la les langues. Les lois ont été traduites afin de nous accorder avec notre nouvelles politique sur les langues. Des lignes directrices pour la levée des fonds et pour nos programmes sont déjà en place depuis un bout de temps.

Finalement, la FNNB a adopté un nouveau nom commercial pendant l'AGA :Nature NB. Ce nom va nous permettre de nous identifier mieux auprès du publique et auprès de nos partenaires. Ce nom ne remplace pas le nom "FNNB".

Pour plus amples informations veuillez contacter Mike LeBlanc (président) ou Marieka Arnold (directrice générale).

Veuillez devenir membre de la Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick Inc. afin d'aider à éduquer les gens de la province de notre patrimoine naturel et de protéger sa flore, sa faune, et ses écosystèmes.
Oui, je/nous désirons appuyer la Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick Inc.!

Ci-inclus mon/notre donation à *:

<input type="checkbox"/> Club de jeunes naturalistes	_____ \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Camp d'été pour les jeunes	_____ \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Projet Siffleur / Piper Project	_____ \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Centre d'interprétation de Marys Point	_____ \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Fond de bourse	_____ \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-spécifié	_____ \$

Catégories de membres (non-éligible pour un reçu):

<input type="checkbox"/> Individuel 20\$	_____ \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Famille 25\$	_____ \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Membre à vie 1000\$	_____ \$
Chèque inclus:	_____ \$

* La Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B. Inc est un organisme de bienfaisance, numéro 89017971RR0001. Veuillez demander pur un reçu officiel d'impôt pour les dons de moins que 15\$.

Nom: _____

Autres membres de la famille: _____

Adresse: _____

Téléphone: _____

C.-élec. _____

Envoyez à: La Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B. Inc.

Jim Wilson, secrétaire des membres

2 Neck Rd. Quispamsis NB E2G 1L3

C.-élec.: jgw@nbnet.nb.ca

NBFN CENTRAL OFFICE BUREAU CENTRAL FNNB

Marieka Arnold, Executive Director/Directrice générale

Wowee! With summer being our busiest season, our competent staff are working at three sites in the province. The central office in Fredericton plays home base to our four summer nature camp staff. Jessica Prentice, Alex MacLeod and Erin Rowsell are the nature educators this year, with Shannon Brander up at bat as camp director. You can read more on our youth nature camp in the article to follow. Maria Papoulias and I are also to be found at Fredericton. We are involved in a new two-year project conducting a vascular plant inventory on the Grand Lake Meadows. Please read all about this in the article elsewhere in this issue.

The rare orchids of New Brunswick poster is still being developed, with Jim Goltz and Don Vail working with our staff to produce it as early as this fall. The provincial young naturalist club is getting its feet off the ground, with Maria Papoulias and other volunteers to begin earnest work on this project in September.

The unique Marys Point Shorebird Reserve, Albert County, is as popular as ever. If you have a spare day, feel free to visit the interpretive centre, meet our staff and view the incredible shorebird migration. Verna Crossman and Conor Tripp are the two NBFN nature interpreters for 2004. The Canadian Wildlife Service, our main partner at this component of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, provides additional staff and supervision.

The Piper Project/Projet Siffleur in the Acadian Peninsula, under the leadership of Lewnanny Richardson, continues with the important work of the coastal guardian program regarding the endangered Piping Plover.

Enjoy your time out-of-doors this season, and please contact or visit us at any time!

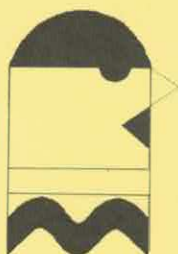
L'été étant notre saison le plus occupé, nos employés compétents sont en train de travailler à trois sites différents de la province. Le bureau central à Fredericton est la base des opérations pour les organisateurs de nos Camps d'Été Jeunesse Nature. Jessica Prentice, Alex MacLeod et Erin Rowsell sont les Éducateurs de la Nature cette année, avec Shannon Brander comme directrice de camp. Vous pouvez trouver plus d'informations sur nos camps nature dans l'article qui suit. Maria Papoulias et moi pouvons aussi se trouver aux environs de Fredericton. Nous sommes occupés avec une nouvelle projet de deux ans qui vise à inventariser la flore vasculaire de Grand Lake Meadows. On vous prie de lire plus d'information dans l'article qui suivra.

Nous sommes aussi en train de travailler sur l'affiche des orchidées rares du Nouveau-Brunswick. Jim Goltz et Don Vail travaillent avec nous afin de produire cet affiche aussitôt que possible cette automne. Le club provincial des Jeunes Naturalistes est bientôt à venir, lors que Maria Papoulias et des volontaires vont commencer des travaux sérieux sur ce projet en Septembre.

Le site unique de Marys Point Shorebird Réserve, Albert County, garde encore son énorme popularité. Si vous avez une journée libre à passer, venez visiter le centre interprétatif et nos employés, et regardez la migration incroyable des oiseaux de rivage. Verna Crossman et Conor Tripp sont les deux interpréteurs pour 2004. Le service canadien de la faune, notre partenaire primaire à ce Réserve Hémisphérique, nous fournit d'employés et de la supervision additionnelle.

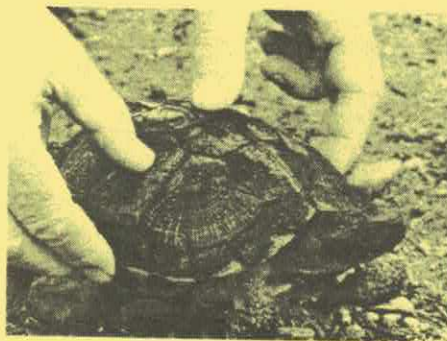
Le Projet Siffleur / Piper Project dans la Péninsule Acadienne, sous la direction de Lewnanny Richardson, continue son travail important de gardienne littorale pour le pluvier siffleur, un espèce en danger.

Profitez de vos activités de plein air cette saison, et n'hésitez pas à nous contacter ou visiter!



N.B. Federation of Naturalists
Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B.
277 avenue Douglas Avenue, Saint John, NB
Canada E2K 1E5

Membership Card
Card de membre



Wood Turtle

Photo by: Margery Acheson

NATURE NEWS – REFERENCES INFO NATURE - RÉFÉRENCES

Nature News relies on NBFN members to report their various nature finds. The following people work as a team to ensure that this section is as complete as possible. Please send your observations to the appropriate compiler.

Info nature compte sur les membres de la FNNB afin qu'ils nous communiquent leurs observations nature. Les personnes suivantes se partagent la tâche d'assurer un suivi aussi complet que possible à ce niveau. Veuillez faire parvenir vos informations à la personne appropriée.

Astronomy / Astronomie
Invertebrates / Invertébrés
Plants / Plantes
Mammals / Mammifères

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Jim Goltz 459-8685
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Birds / Oiseaux

Spring issue / numéro du printemps
Summer issue / numéro d'été
Fall issue / numéro d'automne
Winter issue / numéro d'hiver

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