



32 (3) *Fall / Automne 2005*

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







# N. B. Federation of Naturalists Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B. 924 rue Prospect St., Suite 110, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 2T9 Canada. [www.naturenb.ca](http://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 Bouctouche,** Mike LeBlanc, 7 Rue Landry Street, Bouctouche, E4S 3M9; tel. 743-8485, [pandion@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:pandion@nbnet.nb.ca), site web: [www.geocities.com/anbbout](http://www.geocities.com/anbbout), réunions le dernier mardi du mois à l'eco-centre Irving, la dune de Bouctouche (septembre à juin) avec sorties chaque mois.

**Celebration of Birds Nature Club (Gagetown),** c/o Bonnie Hamilton Bogart, 194 Tilley Road, Gagetown E5M 1H7; [bonniehb@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto: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, E4L 1G6; tel. 364-5047; meets Sackville Public Library, 7:30 pm, 3rd Mon., Sept.-June.

**Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne,** 1521-4 chemin Cowan's Creek Pokemouche, E8P 2C6; [emile.info@cnpa.ca](mailto:emile.info@cnpa.ca), site web: [www.cnpa.ca](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 Valmond Bourque, 12 rue Desbarres, Memramcook, E4K 1E7; tél. 758-1095, réunions 2ième mardi du mois, sept. à juin, à l'amphithéâtre de l'école Abbey-Landry, rue Centrale, St-Joseph.

**Club d'ornithologie du Madawaska Ltée,** a/s Musée historique du Madawaska, 195 boul. Hébert, Edmundston, E3V 2S8; tél. 737-5282 (Bert Lavoie); réunions à 19h00, 2ième mercredi, sept. à juin, Musée du Madawaska; *Le Jaseur* trimestriel.

**Club les Ami(e)s de la Nature du sud-est Inc.,** a/s Normand Belliveau, 54 Malakoff Road, Scoudouc, E4P 1B5, tél. 532-4583 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, 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, E3B 5B4; tel. 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. Folkens, 827 Main St., Sussex, 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, E1C 9N4; tel. 384-6397 (information line); meets Church of the Nazarene, 21 Fieldcrest Drive, 7 pm, 3rd Tues., Sept.-June; monthly newsletter.

**Restigouche Naturalists' Club,** c/o Mike Lushington, 214 Rosebery Street, Campbellton, E3N 2H5; tel. 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, E2L 3J5; meets N.B. Museum at Market Square, 7:30 pm 2nd Mon., Sept.-May, elsewhere in June; monthly newsletter.

**Miramichi Naturalist Club,** meets 7:00 pm, 2nd Mon. in the Community Room at Sobeys, Douglastown.

## N.B. Naturalist / Le Naturaliste du N.-B. ISSN 0047-9551

Published quarterly by the N.B. Federation of Naturalists, 924 rue Prospect St., Suite 110, Fredericton, NB, E3B 2T9. Canadian Publication Mail Product Sales Agreement No. 487716. Return postage guaranteed. Please send notice of change of address to the **Membership Secretary**. Subscription rates (renewable before Jan 1st): individual \$25, family \$30, life \$1000, single issues - \$4 plus postage.

*N.B. Naturalist* carries articles and reports pertaining to the natural history of New Brunswick. Articles are invited in either English or French, and will be printed in the language in which they are received. The opinions expressed are those of the authors. **Please send all submissions for the N.B. Naturalist to: Gert Bishop, 16 Pitt St. Sussex NB, E4E 1J1; tel. 433-4994, [gartali@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:gartali@nbnet.nb.ca).** Ask for details of computer compatibility. Advertising rates available on request.

Cette publication trimestrielle est éditée par la Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B., 924 rue Prospect St., Suite 110, Fredericton, NB, E3B 2T9. Port de retour garanti. Tout changement d'adresse devrait être envoyé au **Secrétaire de la société**. Les tarifs de réabonnement pour *Le Naturaliste du N.-B.* avant le 1 janvier: individuel 25\$, famille 30\$, membre à vie 1000\$; un numéro 4\$ l'exemplaire plus les frais postaux.

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. **Veillez faire parvenir toutes articles pour *Le Naturaliste du N.-B.* à: Gert Bishop, 16 Pitt St. Sussex NB, E4E 1J1; tel. 433-4994, [gartali@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:gartali@nbnet.nb.ca).** Demandez pour les détails de compatibilité d'ordinateur. Tarifs publicitaires sont disponibles sur demande.



The NBFN is the provincial affiliate of Nature Canada (formerly Canadian Nature Federation) and the Canadian Nature Network (CNN).  
La FNNB est le partenaire provinciale (N.-B.) du Réseau Canadien de la Nature (RCN) et affilié provincial de Nature Canada (la Fédération Canadienne de la Nature).



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**Cover: a Northern Wheatear that Roy & Charlotte LaPointe observed and photographed on September 3rd in the Irving Black Brook District.**

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Sincere thanks to our many volunteers who contributed to this publication.

Merci beaucoup à tous les bénévoles dévoués qui ont contribué à cette publication.

Please submit articles for the next issue by February 1, 2006  
S.v.p. soumettre les articles pour le prochain numéro avant le 1 février 2006

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## MOT DU PRÉSIDENT - PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Roland Chiasson

### How would you define a naturalist?

Think for a minute, how would you define a naturalist... I would have thought of: someone who studies and enjoys nature. Have a look at these definitions I gleamed from the web, and see what you think:

- An advocate of the doctrine that the world can be understood in scientific terms.
- A biologist knowledgeable about natural history (especially botany and zoology).
- A person who studies nature (including plants and animals) and natural history.
- An expert in natural history.
- A person, often a scientist or writer, who studies and promotes nature.
- Someone who studies animals or plants, usually in their natural surroundings.
- A specialist who studies and/or teaches about nature.
- A person who studies nature.
- Someone who studies Natural History, probably in the field rather than the lab.

This fall over 20 enthusiastic naturalists came together at Cape Jourimain Nature Centre to discuss the future of the New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists. We defined being a naturalist within the Federation in the following ways:

- We have a passion for nature.
- We are rooted from the bottom up by way our local naturalists' clubs.
- We have our focus on flora and fauna.
- We participate in nature in a non-consumptive way.
- We have education as our primary goal.
- We are people-focused.
- We can offer many things to the general public.
- We see ourselves not as activists but as working together with other organizations and not against organizations.
- Finally, we enjoy and celebrate what we do.

Understanding who we are and how we fit into the New Brunswick environmental movement is an important step in planning the future of the New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists. The Federation is now working on a strategic plan in 3 key areas: conservation, education, and naturalist

networking and support. Our strategic committee will be working very hard on ways to achieve goals in these directions, and we should have a strategic plan in place later this winter.

It is time that the Federation becomes better known to all types of naturalists. You can help out in making our organization stronger through promotion: what better way than to give a gift membership. This is one exciting way to get them involved. Just send in the membership dues plus the recipient's mailing address to our membership secretary, Jim Wilson. That's it!

### So how did you define a naturalist?

Pensez-y une minute! Quelle est la définition d'un naturaliste? Peut-être quelqu'un qui étudie et apprécie la nature. Voici quelques définitions que j'ai tiré du Web. Dites-moi ce que vous en pensez.

- Une personne qui est convaincue que l'on peut comprendre le monde en termes scientifiques.
- Un biologiste de l'histoire naturelle (particulièrement en botanique et zoologie).
- Une personne qui étudie la nature (y compris les plantes et les animaux).
- Un expert en histoire naturelle.
- Une personne, souvent un scientifique ou un auteur, qui étudie et favorise la nature.
- Quelqu'un qui étudie les animaux ou les plantes dans leur habitat.
- Un spécialiste qui étudie ou enseigne une matière reliée à la nature.
- Une personne qui étudie la nature.
- Quelqu'un qui étudie l'histoire naturelle (probablement sur le terrain plutôt que dans un laboratoire).

Cet automne, une vingtaine de naturalistes enthousiastes se sont rendus au Centre d'interprétation de la nature de Cape Jourimain afin de discuter de l'avenir de la Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick.



Voici leur définition d'un naturaliste :

- Un passionné de la nature.
- Une personne qui est convaincue que les clubs constituent les fondements de la Fédération.
- Une personne qui a un respect inconditionnel de la faune et de la flore.
- Une personne qui refuse de se comporter uniquement en consommateur.
- Une personne dont le but primaire est l'éducation.
- Quelqu'un qui travaille avec les autres.
- Quelqu'un qui a beaucoup à offrir au grand public.
- Loin d'être un activiste, il désire collaborer.
- Finalement, c'est une personne qui apprécie et célèbre la nature.

Comprendre qui nous sommes et comment nous participons au mouvement environnemental du Nouveau-

Brunswick est une étape importante dans la planification de l'avenir de la Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick. La Fédération travaille actuellement sur un plan stratégique qui se divise en trois volets: la conservation, l'éducation et la gestion d'un réseau de naturalistes qui comprend le soutien aux naturalistes. Notre comité stratégique travaille sérieusement sur chacun de ces volets afin de nous permettre d'atteindre nos objectifs. Nous espérons terminer ce travail au courant de l'hiver.

Il est urgent que les naturalistes deviennent plus familiers avec ce que fait la Fédération. Vous pouvez nous aider dans ce sens en offrant à un naturaliste une adhésion à la Fédération en cadeau. C'est une façon toute spéciale d'obtenir l'intérêt des gens. Il ne vous reste donc qu'à envoyer à Jim Wilson la cotisation et l'adresse de la personne que vous avez choisie.

Alors, quelle est donc votre définition d'un naturaliste?

## NBFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006

*June 9, 10 & 11*

*Memramcook*

Mark this weekend in your calendar! We are planning field trips in the Memramcook Valley, along the Northumberland Coast, and to Cape Jourimain Nature Centre. We'll have regular field trips as well as family and youth activities! The Club de naturalistes de la vallée de Memramcook will be our host. The weekend is being planned jointly by the Club de naturalistes de la vallée de Memramcook, les Ami(e)s de la nature du sud-est, and the Chignecto Naturalists Club.

Stay tuned! More information will be provided in the next NB Naturalist.

## ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE DE LA FNNB EN 2006

*Le 9, 10 et 11 juin*

*Memramcook*

Veuillez noter cette fin de semaine dans votre agenda! Nous sommes en train de planifier des sorties dans la vallée de Memramcook, le long du détroit de Northumberland et au Centre d'interprétation de la nature Cap Jourimain. Nous aurons des activités pour les familles et les jeunes! Le Club des naturalistes de la vallée de Memramcook sera notre hôte. Cette fin de semaine est planifiée conjointement par le Club des naturalistes de la vallée de Memramcook, les Ami(e)s de la nature du sud-est, et le Chignecto Naturalists' Club.

Restez à l'écoute! Il y aura plus d'information dans le prochain numéro du Naturaliste du N.-B.



## NEW PUBLICATION

*Julie Singleton*

The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, NB Chapter (CPAWS NB) has produced a booklet and accompanying PowerPoint presentation (available in English and French) called "Good Planning is Good Management: Planning communities with nature, society and economy in mind". The seven-page booklet is a good introduction to rural planning and community sprawl issues in New Brunswick, and both the booklet and presentation provide ideas for how we can move toward more sustainable communities. These would be useful to anyone who is

involved in community planning issues, or who would like ideas on how to introduce these topics in your community. If you would like to have a copy, please contact Roberta Clowater, CPAWS NB Executive Director (cpawsnb@nb.sympatico.ca; phone 506-452-9902). CPAWS NB is happy to share the presentation for use by other groups, as long as CPAWS and its project funder (the NB Environmental Trust Fund) are given appropriate credit for the materials.

## JOHNSON'S MILLS SHOREBIRD INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

*Denise Roy*

The summer of 2005 proved to be an exciting year for sandpiper and predator viewing at the Nature Conservancy of Canada's Johnson's Mills Shorebird Interpretive Centre. Over 80 % of the world's population of Semipalmated Sandpipers depend on Fundy's extensive mudflats during their fall migration, in such locations as Johnson's Mills. While in the Bay of Fundy, the main predator of the Semipalmated Sandpiper is the endangered Peregrine Falcon. This falcon had been completely eradicated from the area by the use of DDT. Through federal reintroduction programs, the Peregrine Falcon has once again returned to the Bay of Fundy and populations are doing very well.

The shorebirds were first spotted on the shores of Johnson's Mills on July 12th this season. Peak numbers of nearly 100 000 were observed during the first weeks of August. Soon after their arrival, the peregrines followed to take advantage of the new wealth of sandpipers to the area. High tide, as they are roosting on the beach in large flocks, is when the shorebirds are most vulnerable to falcon attacks. The mere sight of a falcon will cause the flocks to take flight in a synchronized wave in attempts to deter a successful attack; although highly dramatic, this is a most beautiful sight, when the shorebirds aerial ballet becomes a flight of survival. The return of the peregrine as the shorebirds' natural predator is further establishing a healthy natural ecosystem and biodiversity.

The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) is a non-profit, non-advocacy organization that takes a business-like approach to land conservation and the preservation of

biological diversity. Its plan of action involves partnership-building and entering into creative conservation solutions with any individual, corporation, community group, conservation organization or government body that shares our passion. Since its inception, NCC and its supporters have protected more than 7,300 square kilometres (1.8 million acres) of ecologically significant land nationwide. For more information about NCC or the Johnson's Mills Shorebird Interpretive Centre, contact Denise Roy at [denise.roy@natureconservancy.ca](mailto:denise.roy@natureconservancy.ca) or 506-852-9656.



*Shorebirds at Johnson's Mills; Photo: Denise Roy*





## LE CLUB DE NATURALISTES DE LA PÉNINSULE ACADIENNE

*Roland Robichaud*

### Un bonjour spécial à tous nos confrères Naturalistes

Je voudrais vous dresser un portrait du Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne que voici. Mon nom est Roland Robichaud, je suis maintenant président de ce club depuis 3 ans. Le Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne a été fondé, il y a de cela 19 ans, soit en 1986 et nous allons fêter l'an prochain notre 20<sup>ième</sup> anniversaire de fondation et nous en sommes très fier.

Comme tous les clubs de la province, nous avons connu des bas et des hauts, mais depuis quelques années, plus de 100 personnes y sont inscrites et souvent nos réunions mensuelles dépassent la trentaine. C'est très motivant et comme président je suis très content du résultat.

Aujourd'hui, en 2005, le Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne est en très bonne santé. Nous croyons que la cause première de ce résultat est dû à une équipe merveilleuse, pour ne pas dire championne, de la part des membres de l'exécutif. Nous avons eu la preuve, cette année, avec l'organisation d'une fête en l'honneur de l'une de nos doyennes et membre active, madame Rose-Aline Chiasson, et une des fondatrices de notre club avec son mari Hilaire Chiasson (un des fondateurs). C'est à cause de gens comme eux et de nos nombreux membres, que notre club fonctionne encore en 2005, soit 19 ans plus tard.

Notre club est actif pendant toute l'année avec plein d'activités diverses, à chaque mois. Seulement les mois de

juillet et août font relâche de nos assemblées mensuelles. Nous avons aussi compris qu'un club de naturalistes doit absolument être diversifié. C'est pourquoi nos activités et sorties sont basées sur des intérêts différents comme les plantes, les oiseaux, les champignons, les astres, les papillons et les recensements de toutes sortes ainsi que d'autres activités sociales comme les randonnées en montagne, à bicyclette, et notre fameuse journée des membres et j'en passe. La majorité de nos sorties sont organisées et dirigées par nos membres, car depuis toutes ces années, le club s'est beaucoup développé sur l'aspect de notre environnement, et généralement nos conférenciers ou conférencières sont des membres du club, ce qui est très apprécié de tous.

Aussi, notre club de Naturalistes a de temps à autre des activités conjointes avec le Parc Écologique de la Péninsule acadienne situé à Lamèque. Ce bâtiment est un centre d'interprétation de la nature dont je suis le Guide naturaliste en chef. Quelle chance pour un club de naturalistes d'avoir à sa portée un endroit comme celui-là.

Aussi, il ne faudrait pas oublier l'équipe du Projet Siffleur de la Péninsule acadienne, avec les naturalistes biologistes Lewnanny Richardson et son adjoint biologiste Ivy Austin, qui font partie de notre beau club.

Voilà la clef du succès du (CNPA) Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne. Bienvenue à tous.

### A New NATURE BOOK

#### Out & About in New Brunswick

#### A guide to the flora and fauna of Canada's Picture Province

Written by Hank Deichmann and illustrated with numerous sketches by Dodie Clark, and printed by Dreamcatcher Publishing in Saint John, in June 2005. Termed "User Friendly," it covers in 24 chapters and 160 pages interesting details of the ecology of plants and animals of our Province of New Brunswick. Want to learn more about trees and rocks, and the birds and bees this is the book for you!

#### TO ORDER:

Send a total of \$23.00 (this covers the 7% GST, and leaves 3.00 for postage & handling)

To: H. Deichmann, # 1884, Route 845, Summerville, N.B. E5S 1G2

Please print your return address clearly, with ph. no., and if you wanted it inscribed on the title page, provide instructions for that too.



## AUDUBON'S VISIT TO GRAND MANAN – IN HIS OWN WORDS

Jim Wilson

I love to visit stores selling used books. Not that I often do, but whenever I go, I usually find something of interest to add to my natural history library.

A couple of years ago I was in Toronto and happened on a tiny bookshop. The elderly proprietor was a lady from England and when I asked if she had any old books on birds, she beamed and announced that she too was a birder. After a pleasant chat she led me down a narrow aisle to a dusty shelf containing no more than two-dozen items. After apologizing for the limited inventory she left me alone to browse.

My attention was drawn to a small grey volume that looked rather old. Squinting at it in the dim light I read the title - "Life of Audubon the Naturalist", by Robert Buchanan.

I opened the cover and saw that it was published in London by J.M. Dent & Sons Ltd. in 1915. It was a group of selected excerpts from Audubon's personal journals, penned during his travels in various parts of North America as he prepared his great project - the painting of all the known birds of the continent during the 1830's. "Interesting", I thought, knowing that he had come to New Brunswick in 1833 and had eventually sold one of his bird portfolios to the Province. It still resides in the Legislature Building in Fredericton.

I randomly opened the book and came to the chapter subject printed at the top of page 214. It read, "Visit to the Bay of Fundy". Needless to say, the little book now sits on my bookshelf! Here is the text of his journal, written in the vicinity of Grand Manan during the spring of 1833:

"It was in the month of May that I sailed in the United States revenue cutter the *Swiftsure*, engaged in a cruise in the Bay of Fundy. Our sails were quickly unfurled, and spread out to the breeze.

The vessel seemed to fly over the liquid element as the sun rose in full splendour, while the clouds that floated here and there formed, with their glowing hues, a rich contrast with the pure azure of the heavens above us. We approached apace the island of Grand Manan, of which the stupendous cliffs gradually emerged from the deep, with the majestic boldness of her noblest native chief. Soon our bark passed beneath its craggy head, covered with trees which, on account of the height, seemed scarcely larger than shrubs.

The prudent raven spread her pinions, launched from the cliff, and flew away before us; the golden eagle, soaring aloft, moved majestically along in wide circles; the guillemots sat on their eggs upon the shelvy precipices, or, plunging into the water, dived and rose again at a great distance; the broad-breasted eider duck covered her eggs among the grassy tufts; on a naked rock the seal lazily basked, its sleek sides glistening in the sunshine; while shoals of porpoises were swiftly gliding through the waters around us, showing by their gambols that, although doomed to the deep, their life was not devoid of pleasure.

Far away stood the bold shores of Nova Scotia, gradually fading in the distance, of which the grey tints beautifully relieved the wing-like sails of many a fishing-bark. Cape after cape, forming eddies and counter-currents far too terrific to be described by a landsman, we passed in succession, until we reached a deep cove near the shores of White-head Island, which is divided from Grand Manan by a narrow strait, where we anchored secure from every blast that could blow.

In a short time we found ourselves under the roof of Captain Frankland, the sole owner of the isle, of which the surface contains about fifteen hundred acres. He received us all with politeness, and gave us permission to seek out its treasures, which we immediately set about doing, for I was anxious to study the habits of certain gulls that breed there in great numbers. As Captain Coolidge, our worthy commander, had assured me, we found them on their nests on almost every tree of a wood that covered several acres. What a treat, reader, was it to find birds of this kind lodged on fir-trees, and sitting comfortably on their eggs!

Their loud cackling notes led us to their place of resort, and ere long we had satisfactorily observed their habits, and collected as many of themselves and their eggs as we considered sufficient. In our walks we noticed a rat, the only quadruped found in the island, and observed abundance of gooseberries, currants, rasps, strawberries, and huckleberries. Seating ourselves on the summit of the rocks, in view of the vast Atlantic, we spread out our stores and refreshed ourselves with our simple fare. Now we followed the objects of our pursuit through the tangled woods, now carefully picked our steps over the spongy grounds.

The air was filled with the melodious concerts of birds, and all Nature seemed to smile in quiet enjoyment. We wandered about until the setting sun warned us to depart,



when, returning to the house of the proprietor, we sat down to an excellent repast, and amused ourselves with relating anecdotes and forming arrangements for the morrow. Our captain complimented us on our success when we readied the *Swiftsure*, and in due time we betook ourselves to our hammocks.

The next morning, a strange sail appearing in the distance, preparations were instantly made to pay her commander a visit. The signal-staff of 'White-head Island' displayed the British flag, while Captain Frankland and his men stood on the shore, and as we gave our sails to the wind, three hearty cheers filled the air, and were instantly responded to by us. The vessel was soon approached, but all was found right with her, and, squaring our yards, onward we sped, cheerily bounding over the gay billows, until our captain set us ashore at Eastport....."

If this is the complete journal account of his visit to this part of the Bay of Fundy, then Audubon clearly did not actually set foot on Grand Manan. However this may only be a portion of that diary – the book is not clear on this point. However it later describes several days spent at Point Lepreau and after, his voyage up the St. John River to Fredericton, and then overland to Houlton Maine.

It's interesting that Audubon refers to a Golden Eagle at Grand Manan, which is a very rare bird in New Brunswick these days. The fascinating reference to the gulls nesting in fir trees presumably refers to Herring Gulls. These birds no longer nest on White Head and as far as I know, are strictly ground nesters on the smaller outer islands around Grand Manan today. And I assume his references to an "abundance of gooseberries, currants, raspberries, strawberries, and huckleberries" refers to the presence of the plants, as they would not have had fruit in the month of May.

Additional reading about the life and works of John James Audubon include (all are available for reading at the NB Museum; list kindly provided by Mary Sollows):

Audubon, John James, 1785-1851, Audubon, Maria Rebecca, 1843-1925. Audubon and his journals / by Maria R. Audubon.

Audubon, John James, 1785-1851 Audubon, Maria Rebecca, 1843-1925 Coues, Elliott, ed. Audubon and his journals.

Audubon, John James, 1785-1851. Journal of John James Audubon: made while obtaining subscriptions to his Birds of America, 1840-1843.

Audubon, John James, 1785-1851 Buchanan, Robert, 1785-1851, ed. Life and adventures of Audubon the Naturalist.

Audubon, John James, 1785-1851 Audubon, Lucy Green Bakewell, 1788-1874

Buchanan, Robert, 1841-1901, ed. The life and adventure of John James Audubon, the naturalist.

Bannon, Lois Elmer Clark, Taylor. Handbook of Audubon prints.

Burroughs, John, 1837-1921. John James Audubon.

Chancellor, John, 1927-. Audubon: a biography.

Davidson, Marshall B. The original water-color paintings by John James Audubon for The birds of America: reproduced in color from the collection at the New-York Historical Society.

Durant, Mary B. Harwood, Michael. On the road with John James Audubon.

Ford, Alice Elizabeth, 1906-. John James Audubon.

Ford, Alice Elizabeth, 1906-. Audubon's animals: The quadrupeds of North America.

Kennedy & Company (Gallery). Audubon bird prints: engraved and colored by Robert Havell from the first edition, conveniently arranged in general groups, with Audubon's plate numbers.

Low, Susanne M. An index and guide to Audubon's Birds of America: a study of the double-elephant folio of John James Audubon's Birds of America, as engraved by William H. Lizars and Robert Havell.

Peattie, Donald Culross, 1898-1964. Singing in the wilderness: a salute to John James Audubon.

Peterson, Roger Tory, 1908- Peterson, Virginia Marie, 1925-. National Audubon Society Audubon's Birds of America.

Peterson, Roger Tory, 1908-. The art of Audubon :the complete birds and mammals.

Rourke, Constance. Audubon.



## BOTANY CORNER

Gart Bishop

As the fall settles in around us with leaves falling and our wild flowers and ferns withering, it is easy to postpone further exploring of our vegetation until spring. However, if one were to choose to investigate the mosses and lichens found growing on trees well above the snow, a curious naturalist could be busy for a lifetime! In New Brunswick we are fortunate to have resident experts in these groups who are most willing to help those interested in studying them. Bruce Bagnell has been studying the mosses for over 15 years (506-832-0886, [sbbagnell@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:sbbagnell@nb.sympatico.ca)); Stephen Clayden (curator of botany at the New Brunswick Museum) has been working with lichens for 25-30 years (home 506-672-7702, work 506-643-2362, [clayden@nb.aibn.com](mailto:clayden@nb.aibn.com)). If you are wondering where to begin or what books are available or would like assistance with identification of difficult specimens please contact either of these chaps.

The study of our shrubs in their leafless form is also an interesting way to put in a day snowshoeing about. If you live in the southern half or the eastern half of the province, one of the shrubs you might encounter is **Winterberry** (*Houx verticillé*, *Ilex verticillata*). Growing 2-3 meters high, the clusters of its red berries are quickly noticed in swampy woods or wet meadows once the leaves have fallen.

Although Winterberry is a member of the Holly Family (*Aquifoliaceae*), it differs from the familiar 'Christmas Holly' in having dull green, thin leaves that are without the classical pointed scalloped margin. The oval shaped leaves are pointed at both tip and base and range in size from 3-8 cm long by 2-4 cm wide. The leaf margins are usually sharply-toothed, but sometimes only the outer half have noticeable teeth.

Not only does Winterberry have separate male and female flowers, but all male flowers are on one plant and all the female flowers are on a different plant, behaving in a similar fashion to our willow species (such plants are said to be dioecious). The male flowers are in crowded clusters at the end of a common stalk at the base of the leaves. The solitary (or with a few in a cluster) female flowers also grow at the base of the leaf stems, but are stalkless. The colourful fruit (also called a drupe) has a yellow pulpy fleshy layer surrounding 3-8 seeds that are enclosed in a stony layer. The fruit ripens in September, but can remain on the shrub throughout much of the winter. Sometimes reported as poisonous to humans, others feel it

may not be toxic. It is a very bitter tasting fruit so not likely to be a choice selection. It flowers early ... just as the leaves are expanding.

In winter, the female plant with its red berries is relatively easy to identify. However the male plants are trickier. The bark is smooth and dotted with small lenticels (speckles). Perhaps the feature I have found most useful is the very small size of the rounded buds (<2mm).

Commonly found growing with Red-osier Dogwood and Speckled Alder, under Silver Maple or around the margins of open bogs or marshes. While its twigs and stems are browsed on by deer, moose and snowshoe hare, it is not a preferred food. Similarly the fruit is eaten (though not right away) by a variety of birds (Ruffed Grouse, Black Duck, Robins, Pine Grosbeak, and Cedar Waxwing) and small mammals such as Raccoon and Red Squirrel.

Native aboriginals used the bark for astringent tonics (causing fluids to withdraw from tissues, thus shrinking them). The fruits were used to induce vomiting and expel worms. Perhaps the most human use is in horticulture where many varieties of Winterberry have been grown and sold because of the colourful fruits persist at a time of year when the countryside can often be considered drab, and that the shrub is easy to grow, hardy in cold climates and quite resistant to attack by fungus or insects. A Google search on the internet yielded some 85,000 hits, most from nurseries selling many forms of Winterberry, each having slight differences in the size, quantity and color of fruit. It is important to remember if planting Winterberry that you have to have a male plant (preferably within 10 meters) if the fruits are to develop.



a) twig in fruit

illustration by M.E. Herbert

c) female flower

illustration by C.F. Millsaugh



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Holweg, A.W. 1974. Common Winterberry p.150 in Shrubs and Vines for Northeastern Wildlife. USDA Forest Service General Technical Report NE-9. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Upper Darby PA.

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b) twig tip

illustration by M. Purdy

d) twig in fruit

illustration by M. Purdy



## FROM OUR PAST

*Selected by Mary Sollows*



The following article was selected from the Bulletin of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick: No. II (1883), pp. 38. Art. II.

### NOTE ON LINARIA CYMBALARIA

By JAMES VROOM

It may not be generally known that the rare phenomenon of apheliotropism, or turning from the light, is observable in the peduncles of the common Kenilworth or Coliseum Ivy (*Linaria Cymbalaria*). This little plant raises its flower buds an inch or more above the trailing stem; but, as soon as the flower opens, the base of the flower stalk begins to bend downward, the middle of the stalk at the same time bending in the opposite direction, so that the lower part of the peduncle takes the form of the letter S laid on its side - the portion immediately below the flower still being erect. The second curvature, however does not remain, but passes slowly along the flower stalk, drawing the flower downward, so that soon after the corolla falls the growing seed pod lies upon the ground, or, where the stem is raised high enough to admit of it, points directly downward. This might seem to be due to the influence of gravitation, but when the plant is grown before a window (as we frequently see it here) the fruit stalks, instead of reaching downward, are found extending towards the darkest part of the room.

In a room with one window, a pot of *Linaria* was hanging near the blind, so that the light could not reach it from above. The peduncles, which lengthen considerably after flowering, stretched out two or three inches horizontally, and where they received the strongest light from below even took an upward direction. The pot was turned around so that the stalks were parallel with the glass. In three hours the growing peduncles could be seen turning away from the light, and in a day or two most of them were found bent at right angles, the curvature in this case seeming to begin immediately below the seedpod. Yet a certain amount of light is necessary for perfecting the seed; for when moved to a darker place the peduncles, though still pointing towards the darkest part of the room, were "drawn" to twice their usual length and presented the general appearance of a plant suffering from want of sufficient light.





## NBFN CENTRAL OFFICE

*Marieka Chaplin, Executive Director*

### Dear NBFN Member,

So far this year we have many activities to report to you, all in part thanks to your support. Our interpretive site Mary's Point Shorebird hosted over 3,000 human visitors and 450,000 shorebird visitors over the summer months. The largest flock of shorebirds (greater than 75,000) was observed on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Our sincere thanks to all site staff, and the Canadian Wildlife Service for project leadership.

Our education programs have been successful on a number of fronts. For information on our newest youth education program called the NB Young Naturalist Club please check out Maria Papoulias' article in this issue. We also had four weeks of our overnight Summer Youth Nature camps in total this year; two weeks in St. Andrews and two weeks in Kedgwick River (French camp). In addition we experimented with 6 days of day camp of which one week was at Cape Jourimain Nature Centre and the other in Fredericton. This year put us 23 campers richer than in 2004. We had a great camp staff team of seven this year led by a new-to-us and competent camp director Paul Vidal. Our educational poster series offers you a **FREE NB rare orchid poster** at the office if you don't have one already. We are also working on the next in the series; a NB Species-At-Risk poster. Continuing with our long list of education programs, staff with the Piper Project are currently delivering conservation education programs to students in the Acadian Peninsula.

We are heading into the season of giving and to that purpose want to make note of our new charitable donation link on the website: [www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca). At the helpful suggestion of an NBFN member, I would like to mention that if you donate to United Way through your workplace, you can select the NB Federation of Naturalists as your charity of choice (need to specify).

Field and conservation work has been another priority these past months. Piper Project staff have used Coastal Guardians for the endangered Piping Plover, have planted Marram Grass as part of their restoration activities, and have continued work on the rare plants project. At the head office, we've had over seven weeks in the Grand Lake Meadows working on a vascular plant inventory and community ecology project. We've extended our work and even brought out local high school students to this area, the largest wetland complex in the Maritimes.

Our Canada World Youth exchange participants have just left, and so we wanted to share with you a glimpse of their experience with us and their impressions of a totally different country. Articles from both Firdaus and Fatou are also in the magazine. If you wish to see project reports on any of the above items, please contact the head office.

You may be wondering about a new surname for this article; I proudly became a "Chaplin" on July 2 when Philip and I were married in the Knowlesville Church, Carleton County.

Best wishes to you!



*Buttonbush, Grand Lake Meadows*

*Photo: Maria Papoulias*



## BUREAU CHEF DU FNNB

*Marieka Chaplin, Directrice générale*

### Chers membres de la FNNB,

Grâce en partie à votre soutien, nous avons à vous présenter le bilan de beaucoup d'activités cette année. Notre centre d'interprétation « Oiseaux de rivage de Mary's Point » a reçu plus de 3,000 visiteurs humains et plus de 450 000 limicoles pendant l'été. Le 22 août, on a observé le plus grand regroupement d'oiseaux. Nos sincères remerciements à tous les employés du centre et au Service canadien de la faune pour leur direction.

Nos programmes d'éducation ont été un grand succès sur plusieurs fronts. Pour plus de renseignements sur notre nouveau programme d'éducation pour les jeunes, le Club des jeunes naturalistes (CJN) du N.-B., prière de consulter l'article de la coordinatrice du CJN, Maria Papoulias. Nos camps d'été jeunesse nature résidentiels ont duré quatre semaines, incluant deux semaines de camps anglophones à Saint Andrews et deux semaines de camps francophones à Kedgwick River. En plus, nous avons tenté l'expérience des sessions de camps de jour au Centre d'interprétation de la nature Cap Jourimain et à Fredericton. Cette année nous avons accueilli 23 jeunes de plus qu'en 2004. Nous avons eu une équipe de camp formidable composée de sept personnes et dirigée par notre compétent directeur de camp, Paul Vidal.

Notre série d'affiches éducatives vous offre maintenant une **AFFICHE GRATUITE SUR LES ORCHIDÉES RARES DU N.-B.** Venez vous en chercher une à notre bureau si vous n'en avez pas déjà. Nous travaillons présentement sur la prochaine affiche de cette série ; soit sur les espèces menacées de la province. Continuant sur une longue liste de programmes d'éducation, les employés du Projet Siffleur sont en train de livrer un programme d'éducation sur la conservation aux étudiants de la Péninsule Acadienne.

La saison des fêtes est presque arrivée et, dans cet esprit, nous aimerions mentionner notre nouveau lien sur notre site Web [www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca) pour les dons charitables. Grâce à la suggestion d'un membre de la FNNB, j'aimerais mentionner qu'en faisant un don à Centraide (United Way) à votre bureau, vous pouvez choisir la Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B. comme récipient de votre don. (Vous devez le spécifier.)

Le travail sur le terrain et le travail de conservation étaient nos autres priorités ces derniers mois. Le Projet Siffleur s'est servi de gardiens côtiers afin de protéger le pluvier siffleur, une espèce menacée de disparition. Ils ont planté de l'Ammophile à ligule courte afin de restaurer une dune. Ils ont continué leur travail sur les plantes rares. Ici, au bureau de Fredericton, nous avons passé au-dessus de sept semaines dans les Prés du Grand Lac, travaillant sur un inventaire des plantes vasculaires et un projet d'écologie communautaire. Nous avons élargi l'envergure de notre travail et même amené des étudiants d'une école secondaire locale à ce plus grand complexe de terres humides des maritimes.

Nos participants de Jeunesse Canada Monde, Firdaus et Fatou, viennent de nous quitter. Nous avons cru bon de partager avec vous un aperçu de leurs expériences et leurs impressions d'un pays complètement différent. Leurs articles se trouvent donc dans ce numéro.

Si vous voulez voir les rapports sur les projets ci-dessus, vous pouvez nous contacter ici au bureau.

Mon nouveau nom vous a peut-être surpris ; je suis fièrement devenue une « Chaplin » le 2 juillet quand Philippe et moi nous nous sommes mariés dans l'Église de Knowlesville du comté de Carleton.

Mes meilleurs vœux!



*Maria Papoulias et Gart Bishop mesurent un arbre dans les Prés du Grand Lac*

*Photo : Marieka Chaplin*





## NEW BRUNSWICK YOUNG NATURALISTS' CLUB

*Maria Papoulias*

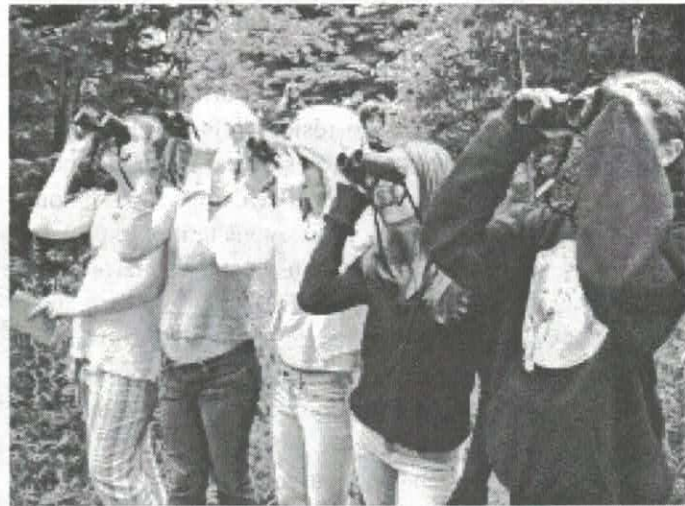
The N.B. Young Naturalists' Club (YNC) has been in existence for almost a year now... and has come a long way!

There are now four local clubs operating across the province - the Bouctouche club has been active for several years now and three new YNC's in Moncton, Saint John and Fredericton have all started up within the past year. Congratulations and thanks to all of our dedicated club leaders across the province and to our volunteer coordinator, Ulla von Schroetter, who has helped bring the YNC to life in New Brunswick.

Our volunteer club leaders have organised some wonderful activities for young naturalists in their communities. Under the direction of club leader Vera Bothé, Moncton YNC outings have included a winter birding excursion, a spring wildflower walk and a "frog-walk". As leader of the Saint John YNC, Janie Jones organised an "animal murder mystery" at Irving Nature Park, where young naturalists learned how to track and identify animals based on signs, smells and calls. The Bouctouche YNC, led by Eric Demers, is ready to begin another season of educational nature excursions from their home base at the Dunes de Bouctouche nature centre. Finally, our young naturalists here in Fredericton have participated in a "beaver pond walk" at Mactaquac Provincial Park, a visit to the Ducks Unlimited Conservation Centre and a tree planting event. Upcoming events for the Fredericton YNC include a "bug-walk" later in November and a snowshoe trip in January.

As well, four issues of our bilingual Young Naturalists' Club Magazine have already been published. Over the past year, this nature education resource has been embraced by many parents, teachers and librarians across the province... and of course, the kids love it too! Thanks to everyone for all of your positive feedback and support. The magazine was recently renamed NatureKids N.B. (NatureJeunesse N.-B.) by one of our young naturalists, Liam Bunin, who was chosen as the winner of our "Name the Magazine" contest. A complimentary copy of NatureKids N.B. will be sent out to all NBFN members in November, so keep an eye on your mailbox and make sure that you receive yours! We hope that you enjoy the magazine - and please keep in mind that a gift membership to the YNC would make a wonderful holiday present for children and young families.

In another recent development, an exciting partnership between the N.B. Young Naturalists Club and the N.B. Museum was made official this October. This partnership will be particularly beneficial to the local Saint John YNC, who will be able to use the Museum as a meeting space and will be invited to participate in the Museum's explorer days and other special events. In addition, members of the N.B. Young Naturalists' Club will benefit from a special museum admission fee of \$2 when they show their YNC membership card at the door.



*Young naturalists learning about birds*

*Photo: NBFN*

Finally, the Action Awards program will be implemented as a component of the YNC in the very near future. The Action Awards provide incentives for our young members to engage in activities which help protect or improve their local environments and educate others about conservation. By completing a certain number of "actions" in each of four categories (described in the activity guides), children can work towards Bronze, Silver and Gold Action Awards.

The YNC is always looking for volunteers across the province to help organise nature outings for children 6-12 years of age (accompanied by parents/guardians). If you would like to help out, please get in touch with our volunteer coordinator, Ulla von Schroetter, at (506) 854-5774, or email [federation@naturenb.ca](mailto:federation@naturenb.ca).



**For more information on the YNC or to download membership forms, please visit [www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca).**

The N.B. Young Naturalists' Club has been generously funded by the N.B. Wildlife Trust Fund.

#### **Club contacts:**

The **Moncton YNC** organises bilingual outings for youth 6-12 years old. For more information, please contact Ulla von Schroetter at (506) 854-5774.

The **Bouctouche YNC** holds outings for young naturalists 8-12 years of age. The activities are in French. For more information, please contact their club leader, Éric Demers, at (506) 955-3107.

The **Fredericton YNC** organises bilingual outings for young naturalists 6-12 years of age. For more information, please contact the NBFN's office at (506) 459-4209 or email [federation@naturenb.ca](mailto:federation@naturenb.ca).

The **Saint John YNC** organises outings in English for young naturalists 6-12 years of age. For more information email [federation@naturenb.ca](mailto:federation@naturenb.ca).



## **LE CLUB DES JEUNES NATURALISTES DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK**

*Maria Papoulias*

Ça fait presque un an que le Club des jeunes naturalistes (CJN) du N.-B. existe... et on a fait

beaucoup de progrès! Il y a maintenant quatre Clubs locaux dans la province – le club de Bouctouche, actif déjà depuis quelques années, et trois nouveaux CJN qui ont vu le jour pendant l'année dernière, soit à Moncton, Saint Jean et Fredericton. Félicitations et merci à tous nos chefs dévoués du CJN provenant des quatre coins de la province, ainsi qu'à notre coordinatrice bénévole, Ulla von Schroetter, qui a aidé à réaliser ce programme au Nouveau-Brunswick.

Nos chefs de club bénévoles ont organisé beaucoup de merveilleuses activités pour les jeunes naturalistes de leurs communautés. Sous la direction de Vera Bothé, les excursions du CJN de Moncton ont inclus l'observation des oiseaux en hiver, l'identification des fleurs au printemps et une « promenade aux grenouilles ». Comme chef du CJN de Saint Jean, Janie Jones a organisé un « mystère de meurtre » sur les animaux à Irving Nature Park où les jeunes naturalistes ont appris comment identifier les traces de différentes sortes d'animaux. Le CJN de Bouctouche, dirigé par Eric Demers, est maintenant prêt à commencer une autre saison d'excursions éducatives à partir de leur base à l'écocentre Irving, la Dune de Bouctouche. Finalement, nos jeunes naturalistes ici à Fredericton ont visité un étang de castors au Parc provincial de Mactaquac, ont assisté à une présentation au centre de conservation de Canards Illimités, et ont planté des arbres le long de nos sentiers. Les événements futurs du CJN de Fredericton inclura une « promenade aux insectes » à la fin de novembre et une excursion en raquettes en janvier.

En plus, quatre numéros de notre revue bilingue ont déjà été publiés. Beaucoup de parents, de professeurs et de bibliothécaires ont adopté cette ressource d'éducation sur la nature... et bien sûr, les enfants l'aiment aussi! Merci à tous et à toutes pour votre appui et vos réactions positives. Récemment, on a donné un nouveau nom au magazine : NatureJeunesse N.-B. (NatureKids N.B.). Ce nom a été choisi par le gagnant de notre concours « nommez le magazine », Liam Bunin. Un exemplaire de NatureJeunesse N.-B. sera envoyé à tous les membres de la FNNB en novembre, alors assurez-vous d'en recevoir le votre! Nous espérons que vous apprécierez la revue – et songerez à en faire un cadeau à un enfant ou à une jeune famille pendant la saison des fêtes.

Le CJN de N.-B. a établi un partenariat avec le Musée du N.-B., ce qui sera particulièrement avantageux pour les membres du CJN de Saint John : club qui se rencontre au Musée et qui sera invité à participer aux « samedis d'exploration » du Musée et à autres événements spéciaux. En plus, nos membres bénéficieront d'un prix d'entrée spécial de \$2 quand ils montrent leur carte de membre du CJN à la porte.

Enfin, nous espérons commencer le programme des Prix d'Action bientôt. Les Prix d'Action inciteront les jeunes à s'engager dans des activités qui bénéficieront leurs environnements et leurs communautés. En complétant un certain nombre d'« actions » dans chacune des quatre catégories, les jeunes peuvent obtenir trois niveaux de Prix d'Action : bronze, argent et or.

Le CJN est toujours à la recherche de bénévoles à travers de la province pour aider à organiser des activités pour les jeunes âgées de 6 à 12 ans (accompagnées des



## BÉNÉVOLAT AVEC LA FNNB

*Fatou Digne*

Je m'appelle FATOU DIAGNE et je viens du SENEGAL pour participer au programme de Jeunesse Canada Monde. Je suis une étudiante qui travaille volontairement avec la Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick.

La plupart du temps, nous allons dans la forêt. Nous nous intéressons à toutes sortes d'arbres et à chaque fois que nous voyons une nouvelle espèce d'arbre, nous mentionnons son nom, l'endroit où on l'a vu, la date, etc.... Parfois même, nous prenons un échantillon que nous essayons de replanter pour voir le processus. Aussi, nous cherchons des arbres rares en voie de disparition comme le Chêne à gros fruits, pour les replanter.

Récemment, nous avons rencontré les étudiants de Oromocto High School sur les rives du Grand Lac (Grand

Lake). C'était très passionnant de travailler avec des jeunes; cela m'a permis de connaître encore plus de choses sur les arbres.

Pour la revue du Club des Jeunes Naturalistes, j'ai écrit un article sur les éléphants parce que je pense que c'est une espèce en voie de disparition à cause du braconnage.

Au début, j'étais très surprise, lorsque nous sommes allées dans la forêt avec Marieka et Maria; je me demandais intérieurement comment des femmes peuvent-elles faire un boulot pareil parce qu'en Afrique c'est surtout réservé aux hommes. C'était difficile pour moi, car je n'avais pas l'habitude et il faisait très froid. Maintenant ça va très bien, j'éprouve beaucoup de passion pour ce travail et je suis très impressionnée par cette grande importance que les gens accordent à l'environnement.

## VOLONTEER WITH THE NBFN

*Firdaus Abdul Karim*

I thought "I will never survive" when I first got to Canada. The weather was so cold that I had to put on almost all my clothes to keep me warm, but by His Grace I am surviving and working as a volunteer with the NB Federation of Naturalists. I'm Firdaus Abdul Karim, eighteen years of age, from Ghana which is at the west part of Africa, and I am an exchange participant with Canada World Youth.

Working as a volunteer with the NB Federation of Naturalists is very interesting because I have learnt so many things although I haven't spent much time with them. I have worked in the Fredericton organic garden by cleaning up the garden and making nature compost for the crops. I have also helped in setting up forest monitoring plots for an environmental science class of a high school and worked with some students in their plots. Not leaving the NB Young Naturalists club out, I have written an article for the magazine which I think the kids will find interesting and also posted some posters on tree planting for kids (Fredericton Young Naturalist Club activity).

With the short time I have been with the NB Federation of Naturalists I have really learnt a lot especially about the environment, the need to reduce the green house gasses which is very important and quite interesting because for instance if most people are to stop using vehicles and use their bicycles as a form to reduce the green house gasses how many people will be willing to do that? I have also learnt about the need to conserve the wildlife which is also a problem in my country and with that wildlife clubs have been created in most of the high schools to educate students on the need to protect these wild animals. I'm very much impressed with the things I have learnt with the NB Federation of Naturalist and also I'm planning to use this knowledge to help develop my community when I return to Ghana. I am also impressed with the people in New Brunswick because most people are kind and ready to help.







## Saurez-vous trouver les 16 espèces en Péril du NB

Y	A	P	T	E	R	O	S	P	O	R	E	A	N	D	R	O	M	E	D	E	H	S	T
J	S	C	O	U	G	U	A	R	D	E	L	E	S	T	U	N	E	S	A	S	A	A	O
H	T	B	E	T	E	S	I	N	S	E	C	T	E	S	O	N	R	R	I	A	S	T	R
A	E	S	P	E	C	E	S	J	R	L	E	R	T	I	E	R	U	B	D	U	F	Y	T
A	R	E	P	T	I	L	E	N	M	L	X	E	T	L	U	E	R	R	S	V	T	R	U
S	D	I	S	P	A	R	U	Q	U	A	T	C	A	E	L	U	E	T	A	E	R	E	E
T	U	R	U	B	U	E	A	B	O	K	E	R	G	F	F	K	B	G	E	R	O	F	L
E	G	V	H	J	K	L	U	F	P	U	T	N	F	E	R	B	J	F	E	U	C	A	U
R	O	B	G	V	I	S	O	N	O	S	O	I	D	A	N	G	E	E	R	Y	E	U	T
D	L	N	F	E	R	C	F	R	U	L	S	E	P	A	R	E	Y	W	T	P	T	V	H
A	F	M	A	E	W	X	P	A	P	R	R	E	F	U	G	E	T	Q	Y	R	A	E	D
N	E	H	T	Q	E	R	E	N	E	I	D	C	A	R	T	Y	D	T	U	O	C	D	E
T	S	S	H	I	O	R	I	I	A	N	K	V	U	E	G	E	O	S	L	T	E	E	L
I	A	S	E	H	E	U	V	L	O	F	A	U	C	O	N	T	D	E	Y	E	E	S	A
C	I	K	W	T	Q	U	U	L	S	E	U	T	O	Q	O	R	O	M	N	G	Q	M	T
O	N	H	S	E	L	C	U	Q	A	A	E	Y	N	R	F	E	M	A	X	E	S	A	L
S	T	I	L	P	I	A	E	T	E	R	T	T	P	E	D	V	A	M	D	A	C	R	A
T	L	R	T	D	C	E	R	S	O	T	U	E	E	P	A	I	R	M	U	S	A	I	N
I	A	B	E	O	A	S	I	F	L	W	T	R	L	T	E	V	A	I	C	M	E	T	T
E	U	P	I	N	G	O	U	I	N	E	N	O	E	I	H	A	I	F	A	I	R	I	I
S	R	R	R	N	T	U	R	E	O	C	A	F	R	L	C	N	S	E	N	N	Y	M	Q
T	E	O	E	E	P	E	I	S	Q	W	R	V	I	E	A	T	L	R	A	O	M	E	U
N	N	I	W	R	P	O	I	S	S	O	N	A	N	E	G	E	A	E	D	U	A	S	E
E	T	E	Q	P	Y	G	A	R	G	U	E	A	T	E	T	E	B	L	A	N	C	H	E

Pour vous aider la sixième lettre de chaque espèce vous a été donné. (voire à gauche)

## THE NIGHTTIME NATURALIST

*Roy LaPointe*

### Sky Surfing - part 2

As winter approaches, the nighttime grows longer and stars come out earlier. The Milky Way swings into a more north-south orientation and our main guide to the stars, the Big Dipper, moves into the eastern quadrant of the sky at the beginning of this period.

The autumn constellations are swinging over into the western skies and in the east, a large area filled with spectacular stars and constellations starts to brighten up the rapidly cooling nights. Here comes the part of our galaxy I enjoy most. To make things even better, early nights and drier air are at hand. What more could a stargazer wish for? Just remember to dress warmly and enjoy the view.

Please refer to vol. 32 (2), page 58 for instructions on how to use this chart and to vol. 30 (4), page 125 for the definition of magnitude, abbreviated mag herein.

### The Winter Sky Chart

Once again we start our journey through the night sky from our main guide, the Big Dipper. This formation is in the northeast after midnight at the beginning of winter and directly overhead early in the evening at the end of this season.

The Pointers, as always, lead us to Polaris and True North. A new key from the Big Dipper is a line draw through the two top stars of the bowl of the dipper to the zenith, the point directly overhead (Z on the chart). Here you will find a bright star called Capella (mag +0.08) in the constellation of Auriga. In mythology, Capella is usually portrayed as a goat over the shoulder of Auriga the charioteer.

Our second key is a line that passes diagonally from the handle through the bowl to a pair of bright stars to the east of Auriga. These are the twins or Gemini, Castor and



Pollux. Pollux is the brighter of the two at mag 1.1 while Castor is a mag 1.6 star. Castor is actually not a single star but a sextuple. It is a system consisting of six closely spaced stars, 46 light years from us.

In addition to Castor and Pollux, Gemini is made up of two rows of dimmer stars looking like stick men. This constellation is the area from which the Geminid meteor shower appears to radiate. This shower peaks on December 13 and a few meteors can be seen a couple of nights before or after this date.

The third key from the Big Dipper is a line drawn through the two stars of the bowl, opposite to the Pointers, and extending towards the eastern end of the ecliptic. This line leads us to Leo the lion. Leo can easily be distinguished by the asterism<sup>1</sup> we call the Sickle. Its brightest star is Regulus (mag 1.4) meaning "little king" in Latin.

Leo is also the radiant of a meteor shower. This one known as the Leonids, peaks around November 16.

We have now seen how to find two astrological signs, bite my tongue, and we can find a third called Cancer. It is made up of faint stars midway between Gemini and Leo. Near the centre of Cancer is M44, an open cluster called Praesepe or the Beehive. This cluster is visible to the unaided eye as a fuzzy patch but is best viewed with binoculars. Just below Cancer is Hydra the sea serpent, a very long constellation of rather dim stars close to or below our horizon.

Our second guide to the winter stars is Orion the hunter. This is the most-recognized constellation worldwide. The three bright stars of Orion's belt are readily recognizable but if you aren't sure of their location, simply follow the Milky Way southward during winter until you reach a part of the sky that is filled with bright stars.

The three bright blue stars forming a straight line about 45 degrees above the horizon and just to the west of the Milky Way are your target. It is about 20 degrees below the ecliptic.

A quick way to check that you have the right trio is to follow a straight line through these stars heading eastward (left) towards the Milky Way. You should quickly come to the brightest star in the night sky, Sirius (mag -1.46) in the constellation Canis Major, the great dog.

Heading in the opposite direction from the belt leads to Aldebaran (mag +0.9) in Taurus, the bull, and on to Pleiades (or M45), the brightest star cluster in the heavens. Pleiades is not a constellation nor is Hyades in the vee formation just to the west of Aldebaran. They are both open star clusters in Taurus and offer great binocular viewing.

Two bright stars above Orion's belt make up his shoulders. The reddish star on the left is Betelgeuse, a

variable giant red star that is nearing the end of its life. Drawing a line through these two stars heading eastward brings us to another bright star, Procyon (mag +0.37) in Canis Minor, the little dog.

Below Orion's belt and forming a rectangle with his shoulders are two more stars that represent his feet. The brighter white star on the right is Rigel (mag -0.12), actually brilliant white star with an absolute magnitude<sup>2</sup> of -8.1. It appears to be a little more than one magnitude dimmer than Sirius because of its much greater distance from us; 910 light years versus 8.6 light years for Sirius whose absolute magnitude is +1.42.

Hanging below Orion's belt is his sword, a curved line of stars and fuzzy nebulae. The nebulae, M42 also called the Orion Nebula and M43 can be seen by the unaided eye but are spectacular in binoculars or a backyard telescope.

If the Big Dipper is blocked from view, Orion can also be used to locate Auriga and Gemini by following the two remaining keys leading upward from his belt as shown on the chart.

Orion is also the radiant for a meteor shower appropriately named the Orionids but these are visible around October 21. You'll have to wait til next year if you missed them this time around.

If you look at the stars in the southern quadrant of the winter sky, you can draw a large hexagon with Betelgeuse a little off-centre. It includes 4 of the 8 brightest stars seen from Earth, excluding the sun. The six stars making up this great winter hexagon along with the brightness ranking of four of them are Capella (7th), Aldebaran, Rigel (6th), Sirius (1st), Procyon (8th) and Pollux.

There are many other wonders in this area of the sky which makes it a favourite of many amateur astronomers. Too bad it's here when the temperature is not so kind on old fingers.

Next time around, the spring skies.

<sup>\*1</sup> An asterism is a group of stars that forms an identifiable shape and is part of a constellation; e.g. the Big Dipper in Ursa Major.

<sup>\*2</sup> Absolute magnitude is the intrinsic brightness of a star if it were 10 parsecs (32.6 light years) from earth. The magnitude of the sun at this distance would be +4.85, not very bright.



## A MEMORIAL OF REID MCMANUS: A NEW BRUNSWICK NATURALIST

A.J. (Tony) Erskine

Reid McManus died 8 June 2005, aged 91, in Memramcook, the bilingual community where he was born and lived and watched birds throughout his long life. Imagine (if you can!) birding for over 70 years in the same local areas, and taking detailed notes on what you saw there throughout! Even Gilbert White (see *The Natural History of Selborne*, 1st publ. 1788) didn't match the time-span of Reid's observations.

His forbears included Acadian French and Irish, the latter arriving in Memramcook about 1825. The family owned various local properties (houses, farm, woodlots, sawmill, gravel-pit), on which Reid worked - and studied birds. He never identified a specific stimulus for that lifelong passion, which already absorbed him before he finished high school in 1931. Already then he was a member of the American Ornithologists' Union, and using Zeiss binoculars for birding, which suggests that his family actively supported his interests from his earliest years - when studying birds was considered rather an eccentric pastime.

Reid attended St. Joseph's school and college (in Memramcook), graduating B.A. in 1935. The college focused on training men for the priesthood, and his 3rd year course in philosophy was taught entirely in Latin (!). Presumably Reid took any courses offered in biology, as after graduation he made several enquiries about employment or further study in ornithology, without success. The Great Depression, then limiting opportunities in most fields, threw him back into working on family enterprises, which left him less time for bird study than in his student days.

His early notebooks (from fall 1928) included lists of mammals, butterflies, and flowers seen, as well as of birds. With others, including his siblings, he roamed local fields and woods, progressing to bird-banding and, for a brief period, collecting a few birds that he judged unusual. Recording observations, in great detail, was a habit with him by 1930, and continued all his life. Eventually his notes were used in a regional bird report that was published only two months before his death [A.J. Erskine & R. McManus, Jr. 2005. *Bird status changes - and changes in environment - in the Chignecto Isthmus region of Atlantic Canada*. Can. Wildl. Serv. Techn. Rep. Ser. no. 430] In the early years,

Reid often transcribed data from his notebooks into yearly 'ledgers', for ease in comparing local lists, but he published only a few brief notes, on his 'rarities'.

The Depression and WW2 years left him little time for birding. His failure to find work with birds may have discouraged him for a while; few notes survived from his activity between 1935 and 1946, but he was recognized as the local bird enthusiast. Two excursions he made in 1946 with Tom Burleigh and Harold Peters (U.S. ornithologists, later authors of *The Birds of Newfoundland*), probably the first professional birdmen he met, renewed his enthusiasm for several years. During that period too, G.F. (Joe) Boyer came to nearby Sackville as biologist for the Dominion (later Canadian) Wildlife Service, another birdman in the region.

Reid found income scanty for pursuing bird study as he wished until after his gravel-pit near Gaytons became a 'gold-mine', when the Trans-Canada Highway was built through that area in 1962-63. Within two years, he was attending major bird conferences, including the International Ornithological Congress in Oxford. The pre-congress cruise around seabird colonies of Scotland was an unforgettable experience for him. He also began then to assemble a library of bird books, which in time became one of the more extensive collections in the Maritimes.





His interests in birds were not restricted to one or a few bird species, including distribution, habitat, breeding, behaviour. His first major focus involved birds around Memramcook Lake, which he visited almost daily in 1963-74, monitoring arrivals and departures, and breeding. After that his attention shifted to shorebirds, on the flats of Grand Anse (aka as Johnson Mills or Dorchester Cape area), again making almost daily visits for long periods in the migration seasons, from 1973 to 2000. He developed his own methods (later revised) for estimating the huge and constantly moving flocks of sandpipers.

Reid, a careful observer and meticulous note-taker, was cautious to an almost absurd degree, so his identifications - even of species he described unmistakably - were often peppered with question marks that may seem redundant. Locations were detailed to the nth degree, usually naming the nearest house or field; unfortunately, ownership often changed over the years. Many location names were abbreviated or in local usage only, some changed over time. Reid clarified many names for me, but a few he had forgotten after 30+ years. Would-be users of Reid's data must keep in mind that he was a 'free agent', collecting data for his own interest and with no expectation that others might want to use them later. He followed his own procedures, rather than working as a 'volunteer' using protocols designed by others. One occasionally senses in his notes unstated frustration at his not having been able to work professionally with birds when young, and still not being able to be 'his own master' if he were to team with (much younger) professional workers in later years. He seems to have suffered from acute depression at some periods (which may account for some gaps in his records), but he unquestionably enjoyed most of his life with birds.

By the time Reid's passion for birds emerged, the former vague separation between 'amateur' and 'professional' ornithologists was hardening into a barrier, with museum and government positions demanding advanced degrees. Reid's level of interest and knowledge likely was comparable to those of Montague Chamberlain or W.H. Moore at similar ages (in New Brunswick two generations earlier), and his college degree might have opened opportunities had the Great Depression not arrived then. [Cyril Coldwell, of Gaspereau, N.S., had similar aspirations that were thwarted for half a century although Cyril knew Robie Tufts, who encouraged other young birdmen seeking work in the Depression years (Earl Godfrey, only 3 years older than McManus, had his first museum job in 1935)]. But Reid had no local mentor to guide and support his efforts. The barriers to entering ornithology professionally rose over time, more rapidly

from the 1960s. Reid had achieved financial security by then but, at age 50, his 30 years of rural work provided him with little confidence for a 'leap into the unknown' world of bird work away from his familiar surroundings. A different personality might have tried it, but Reid stayed with what he knew, enjoying his birding, learning more from birds and books - than he'd ever had time for earlier. Can anyone say he made a wrong decision?

I met Reid first in 1963, when I was busy with a new CWS job and family, and he was at last enjoying free time for birding. We had few contacts until after I returned to Sackville in 1977. Peter Hicklin, the new CWS shorebird biologist, then introduced me to Reid's voluminous field-notes. We borrowed some of his notes to extract data on visible migration of eider ducks (between Bay of Fundy and Northumberland Strait) for a CWS compendium [pp.25-26, in A. Reed, ed. 1986. *Eider ducks in Canada*. Can. Wildl. Serv. Rep. Ser. no. 47]. In recognition of his efforts in recording birds in the region, Reid was named in 1989 the first Honorary Member of Chignecto Naturalists Club (of which he was a founding member).

After my retirement in 1991, I urged Reid to get his bird data into computer files, so they could be used more easily in research. Computers were a closed book to him and he was no longer young, so in 1998-2000 I borrowed his notebooks (all he could find!), and extracted over 48,000 records spanning 70 years. Besides data use in the regional summary (mentioned above), his shorebird data were a major addition to Maritimes Shorebird Survey files, and his redpoll data contributed to an article on the erratic winter occurrence of those birds [A.J. Erskine & R. McManus 2003. Supposed periodicity of redpoll, *Carduelis* sp., winter visitations in Atlantic Canada. Can. Field-Nat. 117: 611-620].

Much more can be drawn from Reid's computerized bird records. Still more information is contained in his original notebooks (which in due course will be deposited in a suitable archive); these provide many glimpses of rural life in south-eastern New Brunswick through a long period of extensive economic and social changes. Though he published little himself, Reid's legacy - to natural and human history - is significant.



## DONATING TO THE NEW BRUNSWICK FEDERATION OF NATURALISTS

Our organization is working hard, on your behalf, to educate New Brunswickers, young and old, about nature. We have an Executive Director who looks after all our programs and projects (of which there are many), and who also participates, on our behalf, in consultations, discussions, and various forums that benefit nature in the province.

Our Young Naturalists Club (alive since 2004), coordinated by a volunteer, aims at bringing youth closer to nature, giving them knowledge and experiences that will help act on behalf of nature. People with some knowledge about aspects of nature, many who like sharing their love of nature, have started to share them with these youth.

Youth Nature Camps (since 2001) provide young people with a great opportunity to learn about nature in a very intimate and direct way. What better way than to get close to the critters that live around us, and to learn about why it is so important to protect them!

The Piper Project (since 1988) is educating people on the Acadian Peninsula about sensitive coastal habitats, and especially about the endangered Piping Plover, a species declining throughout Atlantic Canada. A worthwhile program that has born many fruits over the past years, and really is a hands-on conservation and education effort.

And last, Mary's Point Interpretive Centre, where visitors get the opportunity to observe the marvels of migration right up close. The Centre is the legacy of Mary Majka and David Christie, and we are proud to be able to play a role in its continued operation.

All of these programs take funding to run, and when you consider donating something to a charity this coming festive season, please consider the NBFN, or one of its programs. We certainly need your help in continuing all this great work!

Please use the form to the right to make a donation, or to become a member.



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.!

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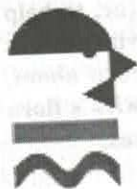
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**The N.B. Federation of Naturalists Inc.**  
**Jim Wilson, membership secretary**  
**2 Neck Rd, Quispamsis, NB, E2G 1L3**  
**E-mail: jgw@nbnet.nb.ca**  
**Website: www.naturenb.ca**

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





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!

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**Jim Wilson, secrétaire des membres**  
**2 Neck Rd, Quispamsis, NB, E2G 1L3**  
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## FAIRE DES DONN À LA FÉDÉRATION DES NATURALISTES DU NOUVEAU- BRUNSWICK

Notre organisation travaille très dure, en votre nom, à éduquer les gens du Nouveau-Brunswick, jeunes et moins jeunes, au sujet de la nature. Nous avons une directrice générale qui est responsable de nos programmes et projets- et on en compte beaucoup. Elle nous représente à des consultations, discussions et forums qui profitent la nature.

Notre club de jeunes naturalistes (en branle depuis 2004), coordonné par une bénévole, donne aux jeunes l'occasion de s'approcher de la nature, d'en apprendre d'avantage et de faire des expériences qui les encouragera d'agir dans l'intérêt de la nature. Des gens qui s'intéressent à un aspect particulier de la nature, ou ceux qui aiment tout simplement la nature, ont déjà commencé à partager leurs connaissances avec ces jeunes.

Les camps jeunesse (depuis 2001) donnent une possibilité directe et intime aux jeunes à en apprendre plus sur la nature. Quelle meilleure manière de s'approcher des animaux et de la flore qui nous entoure et d'apprendre pourquoi il est si important de les protéger?

Le Projet Siffleur (depuis 1988) cherche à éduquer les gens de la Péninsule acadienne au sujet des habitats sensibles de la côte et, plus spécifiquement, sur le statut du Pluvier siffleur, espèce en voie de disparition. Un programme très important qui a connu beaucoup de succès comme un projet de conservation et éducation sur le terrain.

Et finalement le Centre d'interprétation de Mary's Point, où les visiteurs peuvent observer les merveilles de la migration de très près. Le Centre est le legs de Mary Majka et David Christie et nous sommes fiers de jouer un rôle dans la continuation de ce projet.

Tous ces programmes coûte une jolie somme. Quand, pendant les fêtes, viendra le temps de faire la charité, n'oubliez pas la FNNB, ou un de ses programmes. Nous avons besoin de votre aide pour continuer ce beau travail!

Veuillez utiliser le formulaire à gauches afin de faire un don, ou de devenir membre.





## CAPE JOURIMAIN NATURE CENTRE

*Ramsey Hart*

It's a place that has a lot of potential! From the very first time I learned about Cape Jourimain Nature Centre, this has been one of the most common descriptions of this place that fascinates me and allows me to enjoy pretty much every day I work here. (Yes I know, I'm a lucky sod!). Initially the description was a bit off putting – it reminded me of a youngster who is a bit unruly and hasn't quite figured out where he fits in or where to apply his ample energy and resources. As it turns out this is kind of what the Centre is really like.

If you haven't been here yet, you really should make a point of stopping in next time you are in South-eastern NB. The Centre and its surroundings offer an amazing diversity of intriguing and scenic natural habitats combined with some outstanding examples of human endeavours both historic and contemporary.

Located in the Cape Jourimain National Wildlife Area, the Centre has a trail network that allows visitors to explore no less than seven distinct habitats. Being located on two islands and a bit of the mainland on the Northumberland Strait – coastal environments are a dominant feature. Saltmarshes, sandy beaches and rocky shores can all be found within a few hundred metres of each other. Black ducks and herons abound in the marshes while four species of gull squabble over razor clams on the sand bars of the beaches. Nestled in amongst the rocks are mussels, periwinkles and the occasional seastar. Looking out over the Strait, birders are rewarded with migratory flocks of scoters, eiders and mergansers along with smaller numbers of loons and gannets, and the occasional rarity like the parasitic jaeger observed during a recent meeting of the NBFN.

Inland from the shore, the islands are a patchwork of old fields and woodlands. Though the islands haven't been cultivated for 70 years there are still large areas of shrub habitat where tangles of bayberry, winterberry and wild roses make ideal breeding habitat for common yellowthroats, song sparrows and grey catbirds. Looking at the large 1935 aerial photo in the visitor centre it's clear that only small pockets of the islands were not cleared for hay, pasture and crops. These fields were abandoned at various points in time creating a complex mix of forest types and ages. The fact that some areas have returned to solid white spruce and other areas grown up in various mixtures of birch, poplar, red maple and white spruce certainly questions the model of succession as an orderly and predictable process!

While the Yorkshire and other settlers who cleared the islands had the most extensive impact on the area, they were not the first to make use of the islands. For nearly as long as they have existed they have been used – primarily as stepping stones across the Northumberland Strait to Abbegweit, Ile Saint Jean or what we now call Prince Edward Island. The exhibit hall in the Centre does a wonderful job of telling the various stories of how people have come and gone over to the Island. Most harrowing are the tales of the iceboats which made the crossing from Cape Jourimain to Borden through the dead of winter. The Confederation Bridge is of course the most recent chapter

*Youth at a summer day camp organized jointly with the NBFN at Cape Jourimain*

*Nature Centre*

*Photo: Kate Hurley*



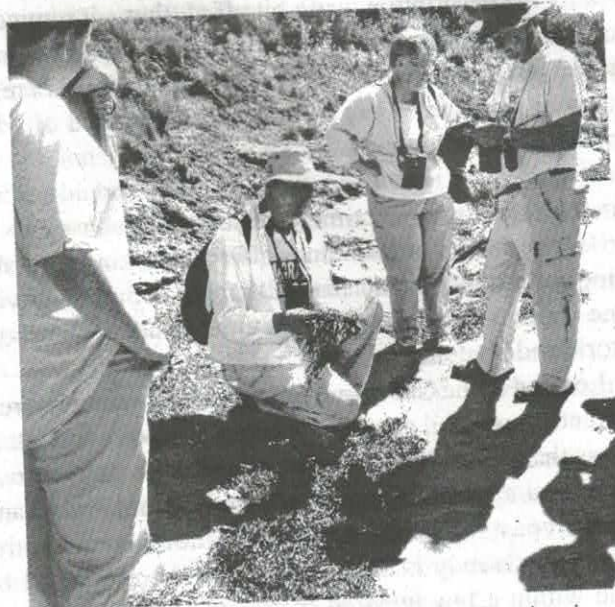


in the story, and the Centre, observation tower, and trails provide the very best views of this engineering marvel. On a much smaller scale visitors can also marvel over the fine detail and craftsmanship of 90 works by Moncton carver and naturalist Jim Edsall. These carvings are at the core of the Centre's natural history exhibits and include our 12 signature bird species, a flock of 75 shorebirds, and a super-sized saltmarsh mosquito.

With so much to offer you might be surprised to know that like that unruly youngster, Cape Jourimain is still struggling to find its place. Part of this struggle is the result of being pulled in many different directions. Is Cape Jourimain a major tourism attraction, conference centre, birding destination, environmental education facility, job creation project? To be all of these things is a great challenge and means having to offer a wide variety of services and developing a complex marketing strategy.

One of the groups we have had the most difficulty attracting, believe it or not, the interested and committed naturalists. We had a few successes this season, most notably the plant theme weekend when we had visitors from as far away as Edmunston enjoy guided walks with Sean Blaney, Jim Goltz and Gart Bishop. Unfortunately, many other programs targeted towards the naturalist community did not attract enough interest to warrant repeating them. We are currently developing our 2006 schedule of activities and are planning a smaller number of more intensive workshop style programs for next year. We are also going

to work at raising our profile within the naturalist community doing things like writing this article and continuing to post sightings on the NB Nature listserv. We would be happy to receive input on how we can develop our program offerings and we welcome your participation in the coming season. With support of the naturalist community, and our diverse other interested communities, I am confident that the centre will, in the very near future, mature into its own, and meet its potential.



Jim Goltz at a botany walk at Cape Jourimain  
Photo: Sabine Dietz

## NATURE NEWS: BIRDS

July 21 to October 14, 2005

Pierrette Mercier

With this summer and fall's crazy weather, I thought there would have been more accidental species. However, there were some interesting rarities, and some uncommon migrants seem to be more numerous such as the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Blue-Grey Gnatcatchers and several uncommon warblers. Because of lack of space, I was unable to name all the sightings made of many of the less common species. Other species that are usually frequently reported had only a few reports such as the Great Egret, Ruddy Duck and Common Nighthawk.

Laurie Murison and Allen McDonald spotted some storm petrels that may have been **Band-Rumped Petrels** (Océanite de Castro) 4 nautical miles from Swallowtail lighthouse. These birds are usually found near the Canary Islands; though unconfirmed, they were reported off Massachusetts.

A **Great Egret** (Grande Aigrette) was at the Cormierville Marsh on July 31 (Jim Edsall).

A **Canvasback** (Fuligule à dos blanc) was at the Arthur Street lagoon in St-Joseph on Oct 4 (Norm Belliveau). Alain Clavette and Richard Perron reported a **Redhead** (Fuligule à tête rouge) at the same lagoon on Oct 3. Another Redhead joined the first on Oct 11 (Norm Belliveau and others). A good year for Redheads, here are more sightings: 2 were at the St-Leonard Sewage Lagoon on Oct 10 (Rob LaPointe), 2 pairs at the Cap Brûlé sewage lagoon, 4 males east of the wharf in Robichaud, 4 males the Cap-Brûlé lagoon on Aug 14. Stu Tingley and his group also saw Wilson's Phalarope at Castalia Marsh on Sept 12.

The Shorebird migration started to pick up in the Ba



of Fundy in late July with sightings in the low thousands at Mary's Point (David Christie) and 30–40,000 at Johnson's Mills on July 24 (Kathy Popma). Migration peaked in mid-August with over 100,000 birds roosting at Johnson's Mills on August 7 (Elizabeth Walsh), 250,000 birds were at Hopewell Cape on Aug 12 (Richard Faulkner), 25,000–30,000 at Mary's Point on Aug 14 (David Christie). Durlan Ingersoll reports 5–6 thousand **Red and Red-necked Phalaropes** (Phalarope à bec étroit et bec large) off Whitehead Island on July 23.

Bryant Freeman had a total albino **Common Grackle** (Quiscale bronzé) in his yard in Riverview on July 23.

A group of birders on a pelagic trip to the Grand Manan banks spotted a **Great Skua** (Grand Labbe) 2–3 miles of Gannet Rock on Aug 30 (fide Jim Wilson). Unfortunately Jim didn't see it. Another Great Skua was reported on Campobello Island on Sept 22 (Norm Famous). Durlan Ingersoll identified a **South Polar Skua** (Labbe de McCormick) 1.5 east of Whitehead Island on Sept 24. The bird came quite close but he was unable to get a photograph. A **Laughing Gull** (Mouette atricille) was among other gulls at Cap Brûlé on Sept 2 (Julie Pellerin). Valmond Bourque is quite sure he spotted a **Little Gull** (Mouette pygmée) at the Cap Brûlé sewage lagoon on Aug 24 but was a little far to be sure of his observation. Other Little Gulls were seen: 1 by Denis Doucette and his birding group at the Maisonnnette Dune on Sept 24, 1 off Deer Island Point on Sept 24 (David Clark). There was only one report of a **Black-Headed Gull** (Mouette rieuse) at the Cap Brûlé sewage lagoon (Mark LeBlanc). Norm Famous counted over 50,000 **Bonaparte Gulls** (Mouette de Bonaparte) on Campobello Island on Sept 22. There were many reports of **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** (Goéland brun) this year. **Caspian terns** (Sterne caspienne) were also very numerous this year. A **Forster's Tern** (Sterne de Forster) was reported on GMI on Sept 17 (fide Brian Dalzell).

Reports of **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (Coulicou à bec jaune) were too numerous to mention.

There was a **White-winged Dove** (Tourterelle à ailes blanches) at Doreen Rossiter's home in Alma on Sept 5. Doreen has had White-winged Doves in her yard for the past couple of years now.

There was a possible **Red-Headed Woodpecker** (Pic à tête rouge) at Second falls near St-George on Sept 8 (fide Jim Wilson).

Many people saw and photographed the **Rufous Hummingbird** (Colibri roux) in Fernand Duguay's yard in Shippagan. The bird was first identified by Valmond Degrâce on Oct 5 and was still present on Oct 15. Photos show it to be possibly an immature male but an **Allen's**

**Hummingbird** (Colibri d'Allen) was not completely ruled out.

A **Say's Phoebe** (Moucherolle à ventre roux) was the highlight of the day for Robert Doiron and Frank Branch on Sept 16 on Miscou Island. A Juvenile **Western Kingbird** (Tyran de l'Ouest) was MSI on Sept 3 (Ralph Eldridge). Other Western Kingbird reports: 1 on Miscou on Sept 16 (Robert Doiron, Frank Branch), 1 at Coytown on Oct 1 (Don Gibson and others), 1 at Coteau road on Lamèque on Oct 13 (Roger Guitard).

There was an unconfirmed but reliable report of a **Fish Crow** (Corneille de rivage) at St-Stephen on July 27 (Clarence Stevens, Fulton Lavender). This would be a first provincial record for New Brunswick. The Crow was also reported in Calais, Me, on July 26 (Maine Audubon Bird Alert).

Don Gibson and Peter Pierce report 3 **Carolina Wrens** (Troglodyte de Caroline), 2 of which were young ones in Fredericton on Aug 7. They have heard a Carolina Wren singing at different times this summer leading to believe they have nested in the area. Don believes this is the first confirmed breeding of the Carolina Wren in Fredericton.

There were many **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** (Gobemoucheron bleu-gris). Roy and Charlotte LaPointe saw a **Northern Wheatear** (Traquet motteux) in the Black Brook area on Sept 3. On Oct 2, Jean Wilson found a partially eaten bird on GMI which Jim believes is a **Grey-Checked Thrush** (Grive à joues grises). Peter Pierce and Doug Jackson discovered a **Bicknell's Thrush** (Grive de Bicknell) in the Irving Nature Park in St-John on Aug 15. **Eastern Bluebirds** (Merle bleu de l'Est) successfully fledged 4 chicks on Mollins road in Moncton, 3 more fledglings were seen on Route 895 (Brian Coates), Dale Gaskins spotted adults carrying food to a box in Dawson Settlement, 4 adults and 4 fledglings were on Welch Cove Road on Aug 1 (Allen and Janet Gorham). Roger Burrows saw a **Brown Thrasher** (Moqueur roux) at Shamrock Park trail on Oct 2. Another Brown Thrasher was seen at North Head Village on Oct 2 (Jim Wilson).

A **Yellow-Throated Vireo** (Viréo à gorge jaune) was at Stanley Beach on Sept 3 (Merv Cormier, fide Jim Wilson). Other Yellowthroats were seen: 1 at Rockwood Park on Sept 13 (Merv Cormier) and Roger Burrows saw one at Shamrock Park in St-John on Sept 16, 1 Whitehead Island on Sept 19 (Brian Dalzell), on Whistle Rd, GMI on Sept 21 (Roger Leblanc, Alain Clavette).

A **Blue-winged Warbler** (Paruline à ailes bleues) was seen on Swallowtail road, Grand Manan on Sept 3 (Ken Edwards and Ken Edwards Jr). Other Blue-winged Warblers were: 1 near Colson Cove on Sept 9 (Don Gibson and Merv



Cormier), 1 at Sheldon Point in St-John on Sept 20 (Roger Burrows), on Whistle Rd, GMI on Sept 21 (Roger LeBlanc, Alain Calvette). A **Golden Winged Warbler** (Paruline à ailes dorées) was at the Old Airport at North Head on Sept 3 (Jim Wilson and others). An **Orange-crowned Warbler** (Paruline verdâtre) was spotted at Rockwood Park on Aug 23 (Roger Burrows). Roger also reports a **Kentucky Warbler** (Paruline du Kentucky) in the same area. Other Orange-Crowned Warblers: 2 at the Black Beach parking on Oct 4 (Stu Tingley), 2 on Miscou Island on Oct 4 (Robert Doiron), 1 on Whistle Rd GMI on Oct 2 (Jim Wilson), 1 in St-John on Oct 9 (Merv Cormier). **Prairie Warbler** (Paruline des prés) were very frequently seen this year. **Pine Warblers** (Paruline des pins) were sighted: 1 at Cape Jourimain on Sept 4 (Ramsey Hart), 1 on GMI on Sept 20 (Robert & Andrea Leblanc, Alain Clavette), 1 in St-John on Oct 9 (Merv Cormier), and 1 in St-Leonard on Oct 10 (Roy & Charlotte LaPointe).

Denis Doucette reports a large flock of migrating **Baltimore Orioles** (Oriole de Baltimore); he counted over 100 on the north end of GMI on Sept 20. A **Blue Grosbeak** (Guiraca bleu) was seen at Southwest Head, GMI on Sept 18 (Brian Dalzell). There were also many reports of **Dickcissels** (Dickcissel d'Amérique).

A **Golden-Crowned Sparrow** (Bruant à couronne dorée) made Stu Tingley's (and friends) day on October 12. They spotted and photographed the bird at the Herring Cove parking lot in Fundy National Park. According to Stu, this would be only the 3rd mention of this species in NB. A **Clay-Colored Sparrow** (Bruant des plaines) was seen at Southwest Head, GMI on Sept 22 (Don Gibson), 2 more were at Black Beach on Oct 4 (Stu Tingley), and 1 at Eel Brook, GMI on Oct 6 (Jim Wilson). A **Field Sparrow** (Bruant des champs) was seen on the Miscou Harbor Rd on Oct 4 (Robert Doiron). Two **Lark Sparrows** (Bruant à joue marron) were on MSI on Aug 26 (Ralph Eldridge). Other Lark Sparrows: 1 was at Castalia Marsh on Sept 12 (Stu Tingley and others), 1 in Northhead on Sept 20 (Roger Leblanc, Alain Clavette), 2 juveniles in St-Andrews on Sept 29 (Peter Doherty), and 1 juvenile on the Shepody Marsh dyke on Sept 30 (David Christie, Mary Majka). A male **Grasshopper Sparrow** (Bruant sauterelle) was reported at Ox Head, GMI on July 31 (fide Brian Dalzell). Bev Schneider also reports hearing a Grasshopper Sparrow in Penfield in July. A **Seaside Sparrow** (Bruant maritime) was reported on MSI on Sept 2 (Ralph Eldridge). Another Seaside Sparrow was seen at Riverview Marsh on Oct 12 (Stu Tingley and others).

Voici quelques observations qui m'ont été rapportées en français.

Un couple de **Fulligule à tête rouge** a été observé sur l'étang d'épuration de St-Léonard le 10 octobre (Roy LaPointe).

Roy LaPointe a identifié un **Aigle Royal** dans le district de Black Brook le 13 août. Pat Emond pense aussi avoir vu un Aigle Royal environ 20 km du Mont Carleton le 12 sept.

Marcel David a recensé 4 **Pluviers siffleurs** le 2 août à Malbaie Sud ainsi qu'un **Bécasseau à échasse**. Il y avait un autre Pluvier siffleur à Malbaie Nord le 10 sept. Deux autres Bécasseaux à échasses étaient au marais d'Inkerman et 1 à Malbaie Sud le 27 août. Il a aussi recensé 3 **Bécasseaux de Baird** le 20 août à Inkerman et 6 autres juvéniles le 6 sept à Malbaie Sud. Quatre **Bécasseaux roussâtres** étaient à Malbaie Sud le 27 août.

Marc LeBlanc a observé un **Phalarope à bec large** juvénile au quai de Bas Cap Pelé le 5 sept.

Lors d'un voyage organisé à la péninsule Acadienne le 24 sept, Denis Doucette et son groupe ont observé un **Bécasseau d'Alaska** et un **Mouette pygmée** à la Dune de Maisonnnette et 2 **Sternes caspiennes** au Lac Frye.

Une **Mouette de Sabine** était sur l'île de Miscou le 20 sept (Roger Guitard).

Les **Coulicous à bec jaune** ont été très nombreux dans la province cet été, Roger Guitard en a observé un près du phare de l'île Miscou.

Un **Colibri roux** a été identifié par Valmond Degrâce dans la cour de Fernand Duguay à Shippagan le 5 oct. L'oiseau était encore présent le 15 octobre. Les maintes photos prises démontrent que c'est possiblement un mâle immature mais il y a une possibilité que c'est un Colibri d'Allen.

Un **Tyran de l'Ouest** a été rapporté à Coteau Road le 13 octobre (Roger Guitard).

Roy et Charlotte LaPointe ont observé un **Traquet motteux** dans le district le Black Brook le 3 sept.

Une **Paruline des pins** était dans la cour de Roy & Charlotte LaPointe à St-Léonard le 10 octobre.

Abbreviations : MNCIL (Moncton Naturalists Club info line) MSI (Machias-Seal Island), PLBO (Point Lepreau Bird Observatory), GMI (Grand Manan Island)



## NATURE NEWS: MAMMALS

April to October, 2005

Mike LeBlanc

Along Waggoner's Lane in Fredericton, Don Murray spotted an albino **Raccoon** (raton laveur) that had been struck by a car on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Fide Jim Goltz.

On April 14<sup>th</sup> Nev Garrity saw his first **Ground hog** (marmotte commune) of 2005 while driving to church in the Sackville area and he was thought with the bad weather of that time, it was not because it saw its shadow and he was hoping that it was going to crawl back into its den for 6 weeks.

Paul Ransz reports of the Saint John Naturalist Club outing that they saw 5 **Moose** (original) and 3 **White-tailed Deer** (cerf de Virginie) along the road going into McGowan's Corner on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Jim and Jean Wilson watched a Woodchuck or **Groundhog** (marmotte commune) that was apparently flooded out of its burrow along the Stockfarm Road in the Hammond River area. It wandered toward a pair of resting Canada Geese and the geese did not like this and hissed at the Groundhog that did not get startled by this and continued on its way.

Rowena Hopkins got a chance to see something that I have never saw before. She spotted two **American**

**Porcupines** (porc-épic d'Amérique) in the garden of her friend in Grand-Digue on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

On May 26<sup>th</sup>, Nelson Poirier got a great observation of a large cat along the Cape Breton road between Shediac Bridge and Irishtown. He commented on the fact that **Bobcats** (lynx roux) are sometimes confused with Cougars and that is might be because there is nothing there to compare their size with.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, the Moncton Naturalists' Club information line reported that at Mary's Point, David Christie was awoken by a loud noise coming from the porch. An adult **Snowshoe Hare** (lièvre d'Amérique) was jumping at the window trying to get out after it came in from the door that was left open a crack. When he let it out there was another one on the other side of the door and a third just across the yard.

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, the Moncton Naturalists' Club information line reported that Mike Majka was joined for a cup of coffee in Mary's Point by an **Eastern Chipmunk** (Suisse, tamia rayé) that came into the house. He had to leave the door open so it would go back outside.

Beverley Schneider was surprised to see how big a **River Otter** (loutre de rivière) was when she stopped to

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check one out that was now a road kill in Lower St. Marys on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Laurie Murison saw one also in St. Andrews on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Roger Burrows saw two very active **Beavers** (castor) along the Nerepis River near St. John. They snapped their tails in the water when he got close on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Moncton Naturalists' Club information line reported that Bob Blake, in Second North River, noted a new yard mammal. A **Groundhog** (marmotte commune) was checking around the areas under his garage and Bob wondered if populations were on the increase as he is seeing more and more.

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ron Arsenault in Memramcook reported that Groundhogs have seemed to decrease in recent years around the valley. He noted that they were very numerous when he first moved there but that a few flood events in the area may have affected the population.

The first **Right Whales** (baleine franche) of the season were seen in the Bay of Fundy on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Laurie Murison reported seeing a mother and her calf. They also saw **Minke** (petit rorqual) and **Finback Whales** (rorqual commun), **Harbour Porpoises** (marsouin commun) and **Grey** (phoque gris) and **Harbor Seal** (phoque commun) off Grand Manan.

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, Pat McLaughlin reports seeing a **Pine Marten** (martre d'Amérique), **Moose** (original), a **Black Bear** (ours noir), **Raccoon** (raton laveur) and a **Snowshoe**

**Hare** (lièvre d'Amérique) during a canoe outing along the Nepisiguit River, up-river from Bathurst.

More marine mammal observations were reported from off Grand Manan including, on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 15 **Finbacks** (rorqual commun) and 6 to 10 **Minkes** (petit rorqual). They were all seen about 2 miles east of Whitehead Island, fide Laurie Murison.

Margarete Doyle got the chance to spot a **Canada Lynx** (lynx du Canada, loup-cervier) at her camp behind Kedgwick on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

The Moncton Naturalists' Club information line reported that Nelson Poirier saw a **White-tailed Weasel** (hermine) in the Miramichi area on July 28<sup>th</sup> with a large vole in its mouth.

Along the Gounamitz River around Kedgwick, Margaret Doyle saw an **American Mink** (vison d'Amérique) as it was running among trees along the river. She also spotted 6 **Moose** (original) and a **White-tailed Deer** (cerf de Virginie) in the area on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Julie Singleton reported that her husband Robert noticed a **Grey Squirrel** (écureuil gris) chewing off drupes of High-bush Cranberries on August 21<sup>st</sup> in English Settlement Road near Taymouth and that he found no mention of this in any reference and was wondering if anyone had ever seen this.

On August 25<sup>th</sup>, Laurie Murison provided a great report about **Right Whales** (baleine franche) in the Bay of Fundy. She reports that at that time there were about 75 Right

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Whales in the Bay with one named "Admiral" that is probably the largest and oldest living in the North Atlantic. In addition, there were **Humpbacks** (rorqual à bosse), **Finbacks** (rorqual commun), **Minkes** (petit rorqual) and a **Sei Whale** (rorqual boréal) seen on the Nova Scotia side in the Bay. A lone **Killer Whale** (épaule) was seen on the Grand Manan Banks by researchers from the Center for Coastal Studies in Provincetown, MA, and another probable sighting was reported on two different days of a single Killer Whale seen from the Grand Manan ferry.

In Shediac Bridge, Nelson Poirier reported a **Grey Squirrel** (écureuil gris) on August 29<sup>th</sup> that was different from others he has seen before. Its head was reddish brown like a **Red Squirrel** (écureuil roux), he noted that he heard from others that have seen this before and this was his first time.

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, Nelson Poirier also reported about a dozen **Little Brown Bats** (petite chauve-souris brune) that were feeding at his moth light in Shediac Bridge for the past few nights.

Roger Burrows reported a few interesting mammal sightings after getting back from a very enjoyable trip to Grand Manan. Off Long Eddy Point there were two **Minke Whales** (petit rorqual) and more than 100 **Harbour Porpoises** (marsouin commun).

On a whale-watching trip with Laurie Murison on September 8<sup>th</sup>, they spotted 18+ **Atlantic Right Whales** (baleine franche), one **Humpback** (rorqual à bosse), 4 **Finback** (rorqual commun), one **Minke Whale** (petit rorqual) and more than 12 **Harbour Porpoises** (marsouin commun).

The Moncton Naturalist' Club information line had a report on September 10<sup>th</sup> from Alain Clavette that a **Short-tailed Weasel** (hermine) was hunting around his feeder area at his home in the Memramcook area. On two separate occasions it tried to get into the house by bumping on the screen door.

Bob and Sharon Blake in Second North River opened their house for a potluck for the Moncton Naturalists' Club on September 10<sup>th</sup>. The group of 20 got great observations during an evening campfire of a **Northern Flying Squirrel** (grand polatouche).

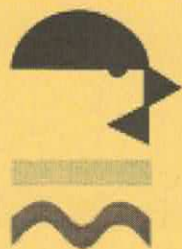
A **Grey Seal** (phoque gris) was frolicking in the waters just off from the Cape Journiman Nature Center, as reported by Ramsey Hart on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Bob Blake still had their **Little Brown Bat** (petite chauve-souris brune) around their yard light on September 30<sup>th</sup> in Second North River as reported on the Moncton Naturalists' Club information line.

On September 30<sup>th</sup>, as reported on the Moncton Naturalists' Club information line, David Christie noted a **Coyote** (coyote) feeding on the mud flats off from Mary's Point in Harvey, he followed the tracks and it was feeding on what appeared to be a White-tailed Deer carcass.

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, Roy LaPointe, observed a **Grey Squirrel** (écureuil gris) at his feeders in St. Leonard. He had not seen one in the area for many years. He wondered if they are moving north or if someone dropped one off from somewhere else.

Laurie Murison had two more cruises into the Grand Manan Basin on October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Here is a list of marine mammals observed: **Finback Whale** (rorqual commun) - 10+ on Oct. 18, 2 on Oct. 19; **Humpback Whale** (rorqual à bosse) - 5+ on Oct. 18, **Minke Whale** (petit rorqual) - 2 on Oct. 19, **Right Whale** (baleine franche) - 15+ on Oct. 19, **Harbour Porpoise** (marsouin commun) - 21 on Oct. 19, **Harbour Seal** (phoque gris) - 1 on Oct. 19.



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**Astronomie / Astronomy** Roy LaPointe, Tel. (506) 423-1900, [birdyard@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:birdyard@nbnet.nb.ca)

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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.

**Invertébrés (libellules, papillons, moules etc.) / Invertebrates (Dragonflies, Butterflies, Mussels etc)**

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### Plantes / Plants

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### Reptiles et amphibiens / Reptiles and Amphibians

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### Mammifères / Mammals

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