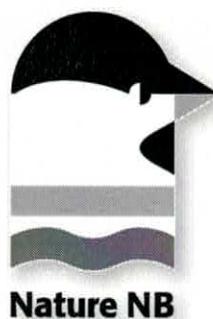


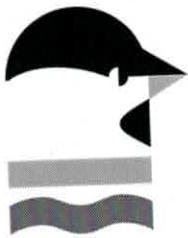
Vol. 36 No. 2 2009



# Naturaliste du NB Naturalist



Honouring Rose-Aline Chiasson • Pédiculaire de Furbish  
Graphic Willow Key



## Nature NB

924 rue Prospect St.  
Suite 110  
Fredericton, NB E3B 2T9

Nature NB is a non-profit, charitable organization whose mission is to celebrate, conserve and protect New Brunswick's natural heritage, through education, networking and collaboration. (The former name of Nature NB – New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists / Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick is retained for legal purposes.)

Nature NB est un organisme de bienfaisance à but non-lucratif qui a comme mission la célébration, la conservation et la protection du patrimoine naturel du Nouveau-Brunswick par l'éducation, le réseautage et la collaboration. (L'ancien nom de Nature NB, soit « Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick / New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists », demeurera le nom légal de l'organisme.)

Nature NB (NBNF/FNNB) is the provincial affiliate of Nature Canada (formerly Canadian Nature Federation) and the Canadian Nature Network (CNN).

Nature NB (NBNF/FNNB) est le partenaire provincial (N.-B.) du Réseau Canadien de la Nature (RCN) et affilié de Nature Canada (la Fédération Canadienne de la Nature).

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**Chignecto Naturalists' Club**, c/o CWS, Andrew Macfarlane, Box 6227, Sackville, E4L 1G6, 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; réunions au Club de l'âge d'or Landry, 1<sup>er</sup> mercredi, sept. à juin; Le Gobe-mouche, mensuel.

**Club de Naturalistes Vallée de Memramcook**, a/s Valmond Bourque, 12 rue Desbarres, Memramcook, E4K 1E7, 758-1095, www.natureacadien.ca; réunions 2<sup>ième</sup> mardi du mois, sept. à juin, à l'amphithéâtre de l'école Abbey-Landry, rue Centrale, Memramcook.

**Club d'ornithologie du Madawaska Ltée**, a/s Musée historique du Madawaska, 195 boul. Hébert, Edmundston, E3V 2S8, 737-5282 (Bert Lavoie); www.umce.ca/coml; réunions à 19h00, 2<sup>ième</sup> 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, 532-4583, ligne d'information : 532-Buse; réunions alternant entre Dieppe et Shédiac, 1<sup>er</sup> mercredi du mois; excursions 3<sup>ième</sup> samedi ou dimanche; La plume verte.

**Fredericton Nature Club**, Box 772, Station A, Fredericton, E3B 5B4, 366-3079; meets Stepping Stone Centre, 15 Saunders St, 7:00 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Wed., Sept-May; newsletter.

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

**Miramichi Naturalist Club**, President: Elizabeth Walsh, 836-7880; mailto@MiramichiNaturalistsClub.ca; www.miramichinaturalistsclub.ca; meets 7:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. in the Friendly Neighbor Senior Citizen Centre.

**Moncton Naturalists' Club**, Box 28036, Highfield Square P.O., Moncton, E1C 9N4, 384-6397; www.monctonnaturalistsclub.org; meets Church of the Nazarene, 21 Fieldcrest Drive, 7 pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues., Sept.-June; monthly newsletter.

**NB Botany Club / Club botanique du N.-B.**, c/o Richard Fournier, Faculty of Forestry, Université de Moncton, 165boul Hébert, Edmundston, E3V 2S8, 737-5050 ext 5258, organizes 5-8 outings/year, AGM in September. www.macbe.com/botanyclub/home/.html.

**Restigouche Naturalists' Club**, c/o Mike Lushington, 214 Rosebery Street, Campbellton, E3N 2H5, 684-3258; meets Village-Campbellton Nursing Home, 7 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday.

**Saint John Naturalists' Club**, 7 Bridle path Lane, Rothsay, E2E 5S7; meets N.B. Museum at Market Square, 7:30 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon., Sept.-May, elsewhere in June; monthly newsletter www.saintjohnnaturalistsclub.org.

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Photo: Irene McCormick

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August to October / août à octobre - Pierrette Mercier, 737-1376, petem@globetrotter.net

Members of Nature NB are encouraged to send their nature observations to the compilers who submit regular reports in the NB Naturalist.

SVP, si vous êtes membres de Nature NB faites parvenir vos observations nature aux compilateurs qui rédigent des rapports réguliers dans le Naturaliste du NB.

Please submit articles for the next issue by **July 31, 2009**.

S.v.p. soumettre les articles pour le prochain numéro avant le **31 juillet, 2009**.

To / à Gart Bishop, 16 Pitt St. Sussex, NB E4D 1J1, (506) 433-4994, gartali@nbnet.nb.ca

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

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

## EDITORIAL TEAM FOR VOL. 36 NO. 2

Sabine Dietz, Connie Smith, Christopher Clunas, Gart Bishop, Janet MacMillan, Ron Arsenault, Roger LeBlanc

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## **President's Message Mot du Président**

Roland Chiasson

# A Sad Goodbye but Fond Memories

The church was packed. On April 18th we said goodbye to a much cherished naturalist, Rose-Aline Chiasson. Over 40 naturalists formed an honour guard and filled the church with birdcalls by pressing on their plush stuffed birds.

Rose-Aline will be remembered for her courage, devotion and contagious love of nature. Nature NB will remember her by establishing a fund for francophone children to attend Nature NB's summer camps. You can make a donation to this fund by writing a cheque to Nature NB

with a note indicating what the money is for. Donations can also be made when you pay your membership.

On a final note, I will be stepping down as president of Nature NB at the next AGM. I will remain on the board as past president and do what I can to help the new president. To all board members, friends and staff past and present, thank you for your super work and support. You have been great!

Have a great summer full of wonderful observations!

# Un triste au revoir, mais de beaux souvenirs

L'église était pleine à craquer. Le 18 avril, nous avons dit au revoir à une chère naturaliste, Rose-Aline Chiasson. Une garde d'honneur de plus de 40 naturalistes s'est rangée sur le côté de l'allée du milieu et a rempli l'église de chants d'oiseaux en pressant sur leurs oiseaux de peluche.

Rose-Aline ne sera pas oubliée grâce à son courage, son dévouement et son amour contagieux de la nature. Nature NB gardera le souvenir de Rose-Aline en établissant un fonds visant à aider les jeunes francophones à assister aux camps jeunesse nature de Nature NB. Vous pouvez faire un don en écrivant un

chèque à Nature NB, et incluant une note indiquant le but de votre don. Les dons peuvent aussi être faits quand vous remettrez votre cotisation.

En terminant, la prochaine réunion annuelle de Nature NB sera ma dernière comme président. Je resterai sur le conseil comme président sortant afin d'aider le nouveau président (ou la nouvelle présidente). Au conseil, à mes amis, aux employés passés et présents, je vous remercie tous pour votre superbe travail et votre appui.

Je vous souhaite un été plein de belles et merveilleuses observations!

# Une « Grande » naturaliste

**L**e 16 avril dernier, c'est avec beaucoup de tristesse que nous apprenions le décès d'une naturaliste exceptionnelle, Rose-Aline Chiasson. Tel un oiseau qui entame la migration, elle a pris son envol pour son dernier et long voyage.

Dès sa jeunesse, Rose-Aline est déjà fasciné par la nature, surtout les oiseaux. Un Pic flamboyant qu'elle a admiré tout un après-midi par la fenêtre donnant sur le jardin familiale l'a marqué:

« Ah! Que je l'avais trouvé beau avec ses couleurs éclatantes lorsqu'il ouvrait ses ailes ». Un jour, elle voit un oiseau noir avec du rouge flamboyant aux ailes, mais n'ayant aucun guide d'identification, elle se réfère à sa collection de petites cartes d'oiseaux amassées dans les boîtes de thé Red Rose et conclut qu'elle a observé un Carouge à épaulettes. (Propos recueillis par Marcel David pour l'article paru dans la revue QuébecOiseaux hiver 2002).

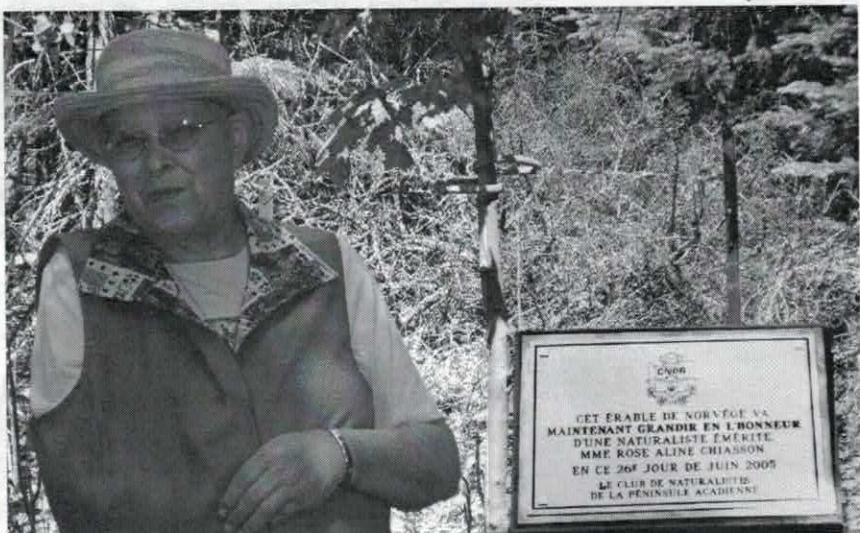
Au début de sa carrière d'enseignante dans les années 60, elle est avant-gardiste puisqu'elle donne déjà des leçons de sciences naturelles à ses élèves de troisième année et leurs apprends différentes choses sur la nature et les méfaits du braconnage.

À 27 ans, elle rencontre un autre passionné de la nature, Hilaire Chiasson, jeune enseignant. Il l'impressionne en lui faisant découvrir le guide Peterson et en lui apprenant à distinguer différentes espèces de goélands. Rose-Aline ne peut résister au charme et épouse, quelques années plus tard, ce naturaliste chevronné. Ensemble, ils ont comme projet de former un club de naturalistes dans la région.

C'est en 1986 que le projet prend forme lors d'une réunion où assiste 60 personnes. Le Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne est officiellement fondé en tant que premier groupe de naturalistes francophones. Rose-Aline accepte d'être secrétaire, et en 1989, organise la réunion annuelle de la Fédération des Naturalistes du NB dans la Péninsule acadienne. En 1990, elle devient la troisième présidente du CNPA et reste en poste jusqu'en 1996. Malgré le cancer qui l'atteint, en plus de participer aux activités régulières du club, elle donne plusieurs conférences sur la nature et participe à une chronique hebdomadaire sur la nature à la radio communautaire. On lui doit des réalisations comme la protection d'une importante héronnière, l'aide à la conservation du Pluvier siffleur et à la création de deux autres clubs francophones dans la province. Elle participe aussi à l'émission télévisée « Via TVA » et à la radio « D'un soleil à l'autre » ayant pour sujet les recensements des oiseaux. Jusqu'à tout récemment, elle s'occupait de la rédaction du journal mensuel du CNPA.

Michel Chiasson  
au nom de tous les membres du CNPA et amis de Rose-Aline

Rose-Aline Chiasson  
Photo par A. Godin



Son accomplissement comme naturaliste a été souligné le 29 mai 2004 par la Fédération des Naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick, en nommant elle et Hilaire, membre honoraire à vie. De plus en 2006, les membres du Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne lui ont rendu hommage en lui dédiant une plaque et en plantant un arbre à l'Écoparc de Lamèque. Par ce geste, le CNPA a remercié Rose-Aline pour son dévouement et son attachement pour la nature.

Malgré le retour du cancer et la perte d'usage de son bras droit, Rose-Aline a toujours gardé le moral. Ceci ne l'a pas empêcher d'effectuer plusieurs voyages ornithologiques avec Hilaire dans le but de découvrir des oiseaux: Floride,

Pointe-Pelée, Colombie-Britannique, Texas, Arizona, Californie, Terre-Neuve, Québec, Nouvelle-Ecosse. Elle disait: «Même si j'ai peine à me servir de mon bras et que je ne suis pas capable de marcher très loin, j'essaierai toujours de voir des oiseaux tant que je peux me traîner.» Et c'est ce qu'elle a fait !

Pour ceux et celles qui l'ont côtoyé, elle était une personne remarquable et pleine de courage. Nous perdons non seulement une grande naturaliste mais aussi une grande amie. Il faut se consoler en pensant à l'héritage qu'elle nous a légué: l'amour et le respect de la nature. Rose-Aline, tu as marqué nos vies et tu auras toujours une grande place dans nos coeurs, jamais nous t'oublierons.

## A Remarkable Naturalist

Michel Chiasson  
on behalf of CNPA club  
members and friends of  
Rose-Aline

**I**t is with much sadness that last April 16, we learned of the passing of an exceptional naturalist, Rosa-Aline Chiasson. Like a bird undertaking its migration, she left on her ultimate voyage.

As a youth, Rose-Aline was fascinated by the natural world, particularly by the birds. A Northern Flicker, which she admired all afternoon through a window overlooking the family garden, led her to exclaim: "Wow! Did I ever find him beautiful, with his brilliant colours, especially when he opened his wings." Later on, she noticed a bird with red patches on its wings. As she did not own a field guide, she used cards collected from boxes of Red Rose tea to identify the bird as a Red-winged Blackbird. (From an article written by Marcel David in the winter 2002 issue of QuébecOiseaux)

From the very beginning of her teaching career in the 1960's, she demonstrated that she was ahead of her time by tea-

ching natural history lessons to her third grade students, teaching them various concepts about nature, including the harm caused by poaching.

When she was 27 years old, she met another young teacher, Hilaire Chiasson, who also had a passion for the natural world. She was fascinated when he introduced her to the Peterson Field Guide and showed her how to separate the various gull species. Unable to resist his charm, they were married several years later. Together, they envisioned forming a naturalist club in the Acadian Peninsula.

In 1986, the project came to fruition at a meeting with 60 people in attendance. The Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne was officially launched and thus became the first francophone naturalist group in the province. Rose-Aline became the secretary and three years later organized the annual general meeting

of the NBFN in the Acadian Peninsula. In 1990, she became president of the club, a position she held until 1996.

Despite being diagnosed with cancer, she continued to participate in the regular club activities, and in addition, gave a number of nature-related presentations and co-hosted a weekly radio show on a community radio station. She was a key player in protecting a major heron colony and contributed to the protection of the Piping Plover. She also participated in the creation of two other francophone naturalist clubs in the province. She was a guest on the television show, "Via TVA", and the radio show, "D'un soleil à l'autre", discussing bird counts in both cases. Until very recently, she was also the editor of the club's monthly newsletter.

Her accomplishments as a naturalist were recognized by the New Brunswick Federation of Naturalists on May 29, 2004 when she and Hilaire were made honorary life members of the Federation. As a "thank you" for her dedication and contribution to nature, the Club de

Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne placed a plaque and planted a tree in her honour at the Éco-Parc in Lamèque.

Despite the cancer flaring up again and the loss of the use of her right arm, Rose-Aline was always in good spirits. These difficulties did not prevent her from going on birding trips with Hilaire to discover new birds. They went to such places as Florida, Point-Pele, British Columbia, Texas, Arizona, California, Newfoundland, Québec and Nova Scotia. She is known to have said: "Even if I have difficulty in using my arm and I am not able to walk very far, I will always try to watch birds for as long as I can crawl." And she did!

Those who were close to her knew her as a remarkable and courageous person. We have not only lost an exceptional naturalist, but also a very dear friend. We console ourselves with the thoughts of what she wanted us to have as a legacy: A love and respect for nature. Rose-Aline, you have touched our lives and will always have a place in our hearts. We will never forget you.

Oie rieuse, observé à Inkerman le 16 avril.  
White-fronted Goose, observed in Inkerman on April 16th.

Photo: R. Chiasson



# Murphy's Law and a Clapper Rail

Beverley Schneider  
Fredericton

This is a true story that involves Murphy's Law and the sighting of a Clapper Rail. Murphy's Law is a humorous, supposed law of nature that says that if anything can go wrong, it will. It is funny how often it really is true.

On a recent trip to South Carolina and Georgia, my husband and I were at the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge birding seriously, watching the great array of birds and wildlife present there. It is wonderful for waterfowl, shorebirds, waders, and raptors. The refuge encompasses 11,700 hectares of freshwater marshes, tidal rivers and creeks, and bottomland hardwoods, which occur in small islands sporadically dispersed throughout the marsh. It is located in the heart of the Lowcountry, a band of low land, bordered on the west by sandhill ridges and on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, extending from Georgetown, South Carolina to St. Mary's, Georgia. The refuge is open to the public and gives good viewing from its system of

roads strategically placed on dykes meandering through the marsh.

Our story starts here.

Picture us driving slowly on a raised dyke, single lane, one way dirt road which goes for about six kilometres

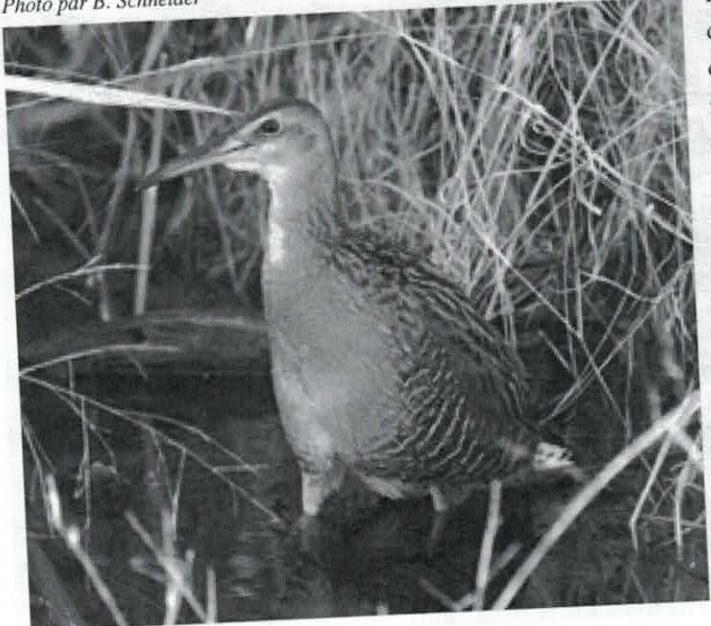
through this huge marsh. We have our windows down, listening carefully for bird sounds. We had recently found Sedge Wrens and we are watching and listening for other rarities. I hear something different, and recognize it as a possible Clapper Rail. I have done my homework and am familiar with the song. I have heard one once before in my life but I have never seen this species. We are both alert and excited. Our binoculars and camera are ready. I am driving the vehicle and the sound is coming from the heavy reeds on my left.

We pull over, just to the edge of the gravel road. There is barely room for another vehicle to pass on this narrow-topped dyke. We decide to stay in our car and use it as a blind. There is nobody around but us, and I decide to call the bird from my open window, using my iPod. All is quiet except for the rail, who is now talking to me regularly. The bird is about 20 metres away but not visible in the dense vegetation. We can tell it is coming toward us. Excitement rises.

From the raised dyke the marsh is about 10 metres away and below us. There is water at the base of the very tall, thick reeds. We cannot see the bird but know it is interested and coming closer. We expect it to step out at any minute. My camera is turned on and ready.

The bird steps out of the impenetrable reeds and into clear view. Just then, a big black, shiny, half-ton truck pulls up beside me, between me and the bird, rolls down the window and in a southern drawl, the guy says, "And just what interesting thing are you looking at Ma'am?" I was flabbergasted and frus-

Clapper Rail  
Photo par B. Schneider



trated, all at the same time! A bird I had never seen had finally revealed itself and I have this human being in front of me asking me what I am looking at. I knew if I gave him an explanation, it would be game over for the bird. I also knew that this may be my only chance ever to see and photograph a Clapper Rail. So, I said, "Would you please get

out of the way," and he kindly drove off. Fortunately the bird stayed and we were able to get a good look and some good pictures.

This is a secretive bird that rarely reveals itself. We were really blessed that day. But, oh how true is Murphy's Law!

## We Want Your Lady Beetles!!!

Lady Beetles have long been recognized as so-called beneficial insects: the gardener's and forester's friend, an ally in fighting the "scourge" of aphids and other pests. But these days it seems increasingly likely that some of the lady beetles that live in our neck of the woods are experiencing some difficulties. In fact, over the last twenty years, several native lady beetle species in North America that were once very common have become extremely rare, such as the Two-spotted Lady Beetle (*Adalia bipunctata*) and the Transverse Lady Beetle (*Coccinella transversoguttata*). At the same time, several species of lady beetles introduced from other parts of the world have spread very quickly and have become some of the most common types, such as the Harlequin Lady Beetle (*Harmonia axyridis*).

Besides being beautiful and charming, lady beetles are valuable predators in farmlands, forests, and other habitats, and they do play an important role in controlling "pests" such as aphids, scale insects, and mealybugs. But this function may be in trouble. In many areas of the continent, native ladybugs are being replaced by exotic ones. This has happened very quickly and no one knows if they will be able to control pests as well

as our familiar native ones always have, or how we can prevent more native species from becoming so rare. Part of the solution is to find out more about how the lady beetles are doing in our region.

To that effect, over the next year or two, entomologist Dr Reggie Webster, myself, and others will be gathering as much information about lady beetles in New Brunswick as we can, including entering and collating all the historical records generated in New Brunswick over the last 120 years or so. We will also be conducting surveys across the province in order to get a better understanding of the status of the lady beetles that call New Brunswick their home.

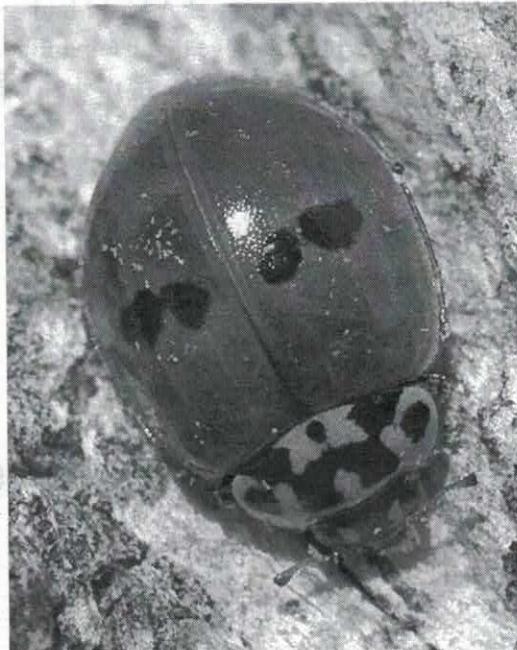
You too can help, and your help would be greatly appreciated! If you see a lady beetle while out in your nature forays, please take a picture or collect it (and



The Harlequin Lady Beetle (*Harmonia axyridis*), an introduced species from Eurasia that first appeared in New Brunswick in 1995 and is now perhaps the most common species in the Maritimes...  
Photo: D. Doucet

Denis Doucet  
405 Pit Melanson Cross Rd  
Pelerin, NB, E4V 3E2  
ddodeguys57@gmail.com

then freeze it to preserve the specimen). Please note the date, precise location (latitude and longitude if you have a GPS device), and most importantly, the habitat in which you found your lady beetle. Please send your images to ddodeguy57@gmail.com, or let me know that you have collected specimens and we can arrange to get them later on. If you send images, I will be happy to write you back with the identity of your species if possible. Thank you in advance for your help. To learn more about the species that occur in New Brunswick and the Maritimes, please visit [www.nature-moncton.org](http://www.nature-moncton.org) and follow the links to the images and checklist of New Brunswick Lady Beetles. I hope you have a great summer in nature and all the best.



A common version of the native Two-spotted Lady Beetle (*Adalia bipunctata*), perhaps becoming very rare...  
Photo: D. Doucet

Gwen Martin  
Yoho, NB

## Upcoming Nature-Writing Competition

The Writers' Federation of New Brunswick (WFNB) is sponsoring a nature-writing competition.

### WHAT IS NATURE WRITING?

Nature writing is not about "the outdoors" or "wildlife I have seen," although such topics can make for entertaining stories. Nor is it strictly "environmental" writing that defines problems and solutions.

Instead, it is more contemplative, considering the natural world and the writer's place within it. Nature writers seek to learn about nature but also from it. The writer feels part of the natural world and wants to share that feeling. In the end, nature writing is an affirmation of our relationship with the natural world and how that relationship – however

dysfunctional – feeds our spiritual and emotional beings.

The wilderness of New Brunswick has long influenced us as a culture and a people. Yet to date, with a few exceptions, our landscapes have received little literary attention. It is time to change that. It is time to bear witness to how natural details of where we live – our sense of place – influence how we live our lives. It is time to leave the tourism clichés unsung. Ponder instead the mud puddles in your driveway, the furled beech leaves on your walking trail, the single sandpiper on the strand.

Whatever your topic, we need your contemplative take on the natural world. Show how you engage your senses with what lives and grows around you and

what such engagement stirs in your heart. How else will today's youngsters know that, once upon a time, in a place called New Brunswick, we loved this place, were touched by its wild spaces, and cared enough to write about that love?

Consider this competition as a literary call to arms. Become a contemplative witness of New Brunswick's wild places, large or small. Ponder how they have moved you, directed your life choices, made you weep or given you great joy. Then get out those pens or keyboards and start writing your essay as though your lives depend on it. Because in a way, they do.

WHEN: Submissions are to be postmarked by Monday November 16, 2009.

WHAT: Entries are to be 1000–1500 words long. They must be original and not previously published.

WHO: This competition has two age categories: (1) adult, and (2) youth under 18. It is open to all New Brunswick residents who are not professional writers or journalists.

PRIZES: First Prize: \$200 ; Second Prize: \$100; Third Prize: \$50

SUBMISSION:

1. Entries must be typewritten, double-spaced, printed on one side of 8 ½" x 11" paper, and paginated.
2. Include your name, address, age category ("Adult" or "Under 18"), and entry title on a separate sheet of paper.
3. Please do not submit your only copy, as manuscripts will not be returned.

Where: Mail entries to:  
Writers' Federation of New  
Brunswick, PO Box 37,  
Station A, Fredericton, E3B  
4Y2. Write

"NATURE WRITING" at  
the bottom. The entry  
fee is \$15 for WFNB or  
Nature NB members (and  
all students), and \$20 for  
non-members. (Prizes may  
not necessarily be awarded,  
at the discretion of  
the judges.)

Questions: Email or call  
Gwen Martin at  
[gwenmart@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:gwenmart@nbnet.nb.ca) or  
506-366-3079.



## A Sound Like Water Dripping: In Search of the Boreal Owl

*A new memoir by Soren Bondrup-Nielsen*

After receiving his B.Sc. in the spring of 1974, Bondrup-Nielsen travelled by train to the logging camps north of Kapuskasing, Ontario, in search of the tiny, elusive Boreal Owl. His search resulted in the first nesting record for this species in Ontario. This book is his personal account of his experience, research, and tracking and recording methods (including telemetry, homemade traps, and a recording device fashioned out of an alarm clock, some tinfoil and a sewing needle). Bondrup-Nielsen's inquiring mind and passion for both winter and the outdoors bring an infectious sense of adventure to his fieldwork, capturing its importance to ornithology and the study of ecology.

\$26.95 · 240-page Smyth-sewn paperback · May 2009 release · Illustrated

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# News from Nature NB

Vanessa Roy-McDougall  
Executive Director  
Nature NB  
Fredericton

For more information:  
[www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca)  
924 rue Prospect Street  
Suite 110  
Fredericton, NB E3B 2T9  
(506) 459-4209

## NATURE KIDS NB

Nature NB is always looking for articles for our Nature Kids NB magazine. Articles on a variety of nature related topics are welcome. We are especially looking for French articles! If you are interested in submitting, please contact the Nature NB office.

## FRENCH PROOFREADERS NEEDED

As a bilingual organization, Nature NB strives to provide all of our materials and publications in both languages. To ensure accurate translation, we are looking to form a pool of volunteers who would be interested in providing some feedback on French content. The more volunteers we have, the smaller the time commitment. Any help would be greatly appreciated and would help Nature NB reach a wider audience. Anyone interested in helping is asked to contact the Nature NB office.

## SUMMER YOUTH NATURE CAMP

Registration forms and information is now available on the Nature NB website. Along with our day camps in Fredericton and overnight camps in St. Andrews, we are happy to announce a new bilingual day camp in Moncton.

## Wanted

Young folks interested in learning about their environment and the critters with which they share it. Nature NB is excited to announce the 2009 schedule for our Summer Youth Nature Camps. We have a great summer planned with this year's theme being "The Amazing Nature Race". This will be the eighth year that Nature NB will be running summer camps for youth who are 9 to 14 years old.

This year's theme is the Amazing Nature Race and will include a series of fun and interactive challenges aimed at exploring everything New Brunswick nature has to offer. We hope to see you there! (please refer to the table on the opposite page for a schedule)

## FROG POSTER AND GUIDE

Through funding from the Canadian Wildlife Federation and Parks and People, Nature NB is pleased to announce the release of our Frogs of New Brunswick poster and guide. These beautiful educational tools are available at the Fredericton office and through the local clubs. Posters: Free; Guide: \$2

## UPCOMING PROJECTS

2009 is shaping up to be an exciting year of projects. Here is a glimpse of what's to come:

- Development of a bilingual education kit: Birding Basics
- Leaders in Training
- Engaging New Brunswickers in Biodiversity Conservation
- More school presentations

We invite you to visit our website to find out more about these exciting projects!

## Attention

Nous recherchons des jeunes qui aiment avoir du plaisir en explorant la flore et la faune de notre province, et leurs interrelations. Nature NB est content d'annoncer les dates 2009 pour nos camps d'été Jeunesse Nature. Nous avons un été intéressant de planifié et cette année notre thème est La Grande Aventure de Nature. Ceci est la 8ième année de nos camps disponible aux jeunes de 9 à 14 ans.

# Nouvelles de Nature NB

**N**ATURE JEUNESSE N.-B. Nature NB recherche des articles pour notre magazine Nature Jeunesse N.-B. Des articles portant sur divers sujets sur la nature sont bienvenus. Nous cherchons surtout des articles en français. Tous ceux désirant le faire sont priés de contacter Nature NB.

**RÉVISEURS FRANCOPHONES DEMANDÉS!**  
Nature NB, en tant qu'organisation bilingue, s'efforce d'offrir tous ses services et publications dans les deux langues officielles du Nouveau-Brunswick. Pour maintenir la qualité de nos textes français, nous voulons créer un réseau de bénévoles pour vérifier ceux-ci. Plus de bénévoles, plus la tâche sera facile. Toute aide sera grandement appréciée, ce qui permettra à Nature NB de rejoindre un plus grand public. Les intéressés sont priés de contacter Nature NB.

## CAMPS D'ÉTÉ JEUNESSE NATURE

Nature NB accepte maintenant des inscriptions pour nos camps d'été Jeunesse Nature. Les formulaires d'inscription et des renseignements supplémentaires sont offerts sur notre site web. En plus de nos camps à Fredericton et St. Andrews, nous offrons un nouveau camp de jour à Moncton. Cette année, notre thème

est La Grande Aventure de Nature et inclura une série de défis et d'activités interactives pour explorer le merveilleux monde naturel du Nouveau-Brunswick. Nous espérons vous y voir!

**GRENOUILLES DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK**  
Grâce à la Fédération Canadienne de la Faune, Nature NB est fier d'annoncer la parution d'une nouvelle affiche, ainsi qu'un guide d'identification Les Grenouilles du Nouveau-Brunswick. Ces publications sont maintenant disponibles au bureau central à Fredericton et aux clubs locaux. Affiche : Gratuite; Guide : 2 \$

## AUTRES PROJETS

Nature NB prévoit entreprendre plusieurs nouveaux projets pendant l'année. En voici un aperçu :

- Développement d'une trousse d'observation d'oiseaux
- Formation d'animateur
- Engagement des Nouveau-Brunswickois dans la conservation de la biodiversité
- Présentations interactives scolaires

Nous vous invitons à visiter notre site web pour en apprendre davantage sur ces projets captivants.

Vanessa Roy-McDougall  
Directrice générale  
Nature NB  
Fredericton

Pour plus d'information :  
[www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca)  
924 rue Prospect Street  
Suite 110  
Fredericton, NB E3B 2T9  
(506) 459-4209

Location/Lieu	Fredericton - Killarney Lake	St. Andrews I	St. Andrews II	Fredericton - Killarney Lake	Moncton
Dates	23 - 27 June / juin	6-11 July / juillet	20 - 25 July / juillet	4-7 August / août	17 - 21 August / août
Language/langue	Bilingual / bilingue	English / anglais	English / anglais	Bilingual / bilingue	Bilingual / bilingue
Camp Type/genre	Day Camp / Camp de jour	Overnight / Résidentiel	Overnight / Résidentiel	Day Camp/ Camp de jour	Day Camp/ Camp de jour
Age / Âge	9 - 14	9 -11	11-14	9- 14	9-14
Cost per week / Coût par semaine	\$150	\$325	\$325	\$120	\$150

Jean-Yves Blanchette,  
Richard Fournier et  
Adélaïde De Bont

Professeur, Superviseur de Laboratoire et étudiante au baccalauréat en sciences forestières de la Faculté de Foresterie, Université de Moncton, Edmundston, N.B.

## Rétablissement de la Pédiculaire de Furbish (*Pedicularis furbishiae S. Wats.*) - Techniques de multiplication en serre.

Le statut de « en voie de disparition » de la Pédiculaire de Furbish au Nouveau-Brunswick est demeuré inchangé depuis 1982. Un groupe de scientifiques (Équipe de rétablissement de la Pédiculaire de Furbish 2006) a estimé que la population canadienne (Nouveau-Brunswick) s'établit à moins de 1000 individus. Les recommandations étaient la conservation des sites existants, un programme de suivi et un plan d'action pour évaluer la possibilité de multiplier la plante, comme moyen d'augmenter les populations actuelles et d'en établir de nouvelles.



Fleur du Pédiculaire  
Photo par J.-Y. Blanchette

Des techniques de multiplication en serre de la Pédiculaire de Furbish n'ont pas encore été développées. Une étude fut mise en marche par la Faculté de Foresterie de l'Université de Moncton en collaboration avec le Ministère des Ressources Naturelles du NB et du Jardin

Botanique du NB, afin de mettre au point ces techniques.

La Pédiculaire de Furbish (maintenant placée dans la famille des Orobanchacées) est un hémiparasite racinaire obligatoire lors de son stade de plantule, c.-à-d. qu'elle requiert un hôte pour lui fournir des nutriments et de l'eau. Le parasite extrait des solutions à l'aide d'une structure spécialisée (haustorium) reliant les deux systèmes racinaires.

Macior (1980) a suggéré que la pédiculaire ne possède pas d'hôte déterminé; cependant, le NTN (2003), qui a réalisé une étude sur les plantes accompagnatrices dans les populations du NB, indique que des membres de la famille des Légumineuses (Fabaceae) et du genre *Alnus* comptent parmi les plantes vasculaires associées dominantes.

Il fut décidé à examiner le rôle potentiel d'espèces de la famille des Fabaceae, ainsi que l'*Alnus sp.*, comme hôtes de la Pédiculaire de Furbish. Parmi celles-ci, des espèces exotiques habituellement retrouvées avec la pédiculaire sont le trèfle (*Trifolium sp.*), la vesce jargeau (*Vicia cracca L.*) et le lotier corniculé (*Lotus corniculatus L.*), alors que les espèces indigènes sont la desmodie du Canada (*Desmodium canadense (L.) DC.*) et l'aulne (*Alnus sp.*). La prémissse pour ces choix est leur habileté de fixer l'azote et, possiblement, pourvoir à la plantule un élément vital.

La recherche s'est déroulée dans la serre du Jardin Botanique du NB où des plantes mûres de trèfle, de vesce jargeau, de

lotier corniculé et de boutures d'aulne, récoltées sur le bord du fleuve Saint-Jean, furent placées dans de gros contenants. Une étude parallèle (Mme A. De Bont) s'est déroulée dans les chambres de croissance de la Faculté de Foresterie pour une thèse de baccalauréat en sciences forestières. Des semences de trèfle alsike (*Trifolium hybridum L.*), de lupin (*Lupinus sp.*), de desmodie du Canada et de réglisse sauvage (*Glycyrrhiza lepidota Pursh*) furent plantées et utilisées comme hôtes le mois suivant. Le témoin était une espèce annuelle de la famille des Graminées, le blé d'été (*Triticum aestivum L.*), tel que suggéré par Macior (1980), qui a démontré que les plantules de Pédiculaire de Furbish ne survivent pas sans un hôte.

Les semences de la pédiculaire furent récoltées au début d'octobre 2008 dans deux stations. Une troisième station fut abandonnée, car une crue estivale au début d'août, au moment critique de la floraison, a détruit la plupart des plants de Pédiculaires de Furbish.

Suivant un prétraitement, les semences germées furent placées près des hôtes et suivies, pour la survie et la croissance, sur une période de quatre mois. L'identification des nouvelles plantules fut un défi, car aucune description ou image photographique des cotylédons n'était disponible. Une fois les premières feuilles émergées, la pédiculaire est deve-

nue aisément identifiable. Après quatre mois, quelques plantules présentaient des feuilles d'au moins 5 cm de long. Gawler et collab. (1987) ont indiqué que des plantules de un an, croissant le long du Fleuve Saint-Jean, avaient rarement des feuilles de plus de 1,5 cm de long. Nos résultats suggèrent qu'il serait possible de raccourcir la période habituelle de croissance nécessaire (3 ans) pour la floraison et, subséquemment, la fructification de cette plante rare.

Quelques plantules seront plantées au Jardin Botanique du NB cet été (2009). Elles seront maintenues comme source de semences et aux fins d'étude. Tous sont cordialement invités à visiter et examiner ou photographier les plantules.



Plante de Pédiculaire  
Photo par J.-Y. Blanchette



Plantule  
Photo par J.-Y. Blanchette



Jeune plante  
Photo par J.-Y. Blanchette

## Références

- Équipe de rétablissement de la pédiculaire de Furbish. 2006. Programme de rétablissement de la pédiculaire de Furbish (*Pedicularis furbishiae*) au Nouveau-Brunswick. Ministère des ressources naturelles du Nouveau-Brunswick, Fredericton (Nouveau-Brunswick). ([www.gnb.ca/0078/publications/furbish-strategy-f-no5-07.pdf](http://www.gnb.ca/0078/publications/furbish-strategy-f-no5-07.pdf))
- Gawler, S.C., D.M. Waller, and E.S. Menges. 1987. Environmental factors affecting the establishment and growth of *Pedicularis furbishiae*, a rare endemic of the Saint John River Valley, Maine. Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club 114 : 280-292.
- Macior, L.W. 1980. The population ecology (population biology) of Furbish's Lousewort, *Pedicularis furbishiae* S. Wats. Rhodora 82 : 105-111.
- Nature Trust of New Brunswick (NTNB). 2003. Rare plant surveys of the Upper St. John River with focus on Furbish's lousewort. Publication of the Nature Trust of New Brunswick, Inc. Fredericton, New Brunswick. 61 pp.

Rick Fournier  
Edmundston

# NB Botany Club / Club Botanique du N.-B.

## EVENTS FOR 2009 / EXCURSIONS POUR 2009

DATE : JUNE 20 (SATURDAY) / 20 JUIN  
(SAMEDI)

Topic / Sujet : The plants of the Grande Plaine of Miscou Island / Les plantes de la Grande Plaine de l'île de Miscou  
This will be an open field trip with some guidance from our members from the Acadian Peninsula / Cette excursion sera sous la surveillance de nos membres de la Péninsule acadienne.

Location / Lieu : Grande Plaine, Miscou Island / Île de Miscou ; meeting place to be determined / lieu de rencontre à définir; Start Time / Début : 10 am; Degree of difficulty / Difficulté : Moderate / modérée; Equipment / Équipement : waterproof boots; water bottle; lunch / bottes imperméables; flacon d'eau; nourriture

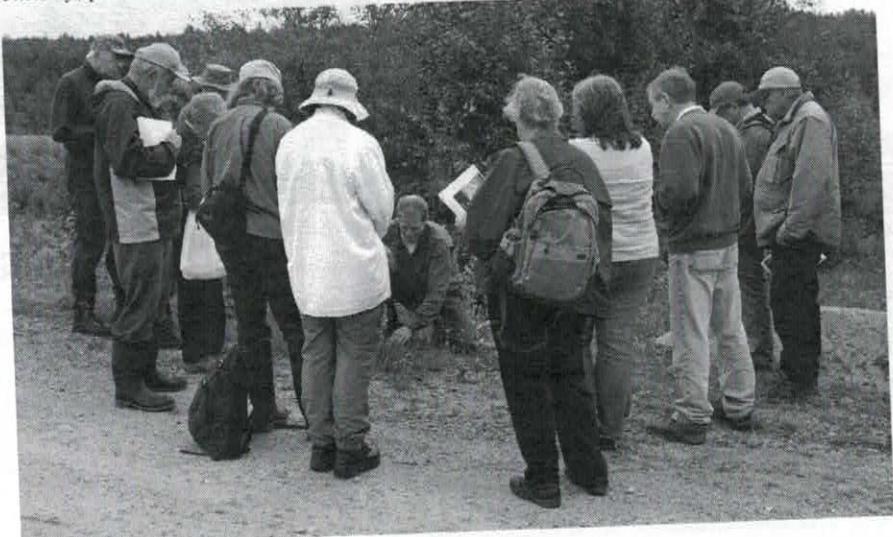
DATE : JULY 4 (SATURDAY) / 4 JUILLET  
(SAMEDI)

Topic / Sujet : Plant inventory of Odell Park / Inventaire de la flore du Park Odell

Leader / Directeur : Rick Fournier;  
Location / Lieu : Odell Park park-

NBBC Aster Workshop 2008: Sean Blaney at the Aster Workshop - Miramichi River / Sean Blaney à l'atelier des Asters - Rivière Miramichi

Photo by / par R. Fournier



ing lot, Wagoners Lane, Fredericton / stationnement du Parc Odell, Wagoners Lane, Fredericton; Start Time / Début : 10 am; Degree of difficulty / Difficulté : Easy to moderate, some wet spots / Facile à modérée, des lieux humides; Equipment / Équipement : Hiking boots; water bottle / bottes de marche; flacon d'eau

DATE: JULY 18 & 19 (SATURDAY & SUNDAY) / 18 & 19 JUILLET (SAMEDI ET DIMANCHE)

Topic / Sujet : The Flora of Campobello Island / La flore de l'île de Campobello  
Leader / Directeur : This will be an open weekend field trip with supervision and guidance by Rick Fournier and many experts / Cette excursion sera sous la surveillance de Rick Fournier et de plusieurs experts; Location / Lieu : Campobello Island, Roosevelt Park Visitor Centre (off Route 774) / Le centre d'accueil du Parc Roosevelt de l'île de Campobello (du chemin 774); Start Time (Saturday & Sunday) / Début (samedi et dimanche) : 10 am; Degree of difficulty / Difficulté : Easy to moderate / Facile à modérée; Equipment / Équipement : waterproof boots; water bottle; lunch / bottes imperméables; flacon d'eau; nourriture

DATE : AUGUST 1 (SATURDAY) / 1 AOÛT  
(SAMEDI)

Topic / Sujet : Plant inventory of Odell Park / Inventaire de la flore du Park Odell

Leader / Directeur: Rick Fournier;  
Location / Lieu : Odell Park parking lot, Wagoners Lane, Fredericton / stationnement du Parc Odell, Wagoners Lane, Fredericton; Start Time / Début : 10 am; Degree of difficulty / Difficulté : Easy to moderate, some wet spots / Facile à modérée, des lieux humides; Equip-

ment / Équipement : Hiking boots; water bottle / bottes de marche; flacon d'eau

DATE : AUGUST 8 / 8 AOÛT (SATURDAY / SAMEDI)

Topic / Sujet : Aquatic and Shore Plants of Mud Lake, near Sussex / Plantes aquatiques et riveraines du lac Mud, près de Sussex; Leaders / Directeurs : Gart Bishop & Debby Peck; Location / Lieu : Mud Lake, near Sussex (meeting place to be determined) / lac Mud, près de Sussex (lieu de rencontre à définir); Start time / Début : 10 am; Degree of difficulty / Difficulté: Easy to moderate / Facile à modérée; Equipment / Équipement : waterproof boots; water bottle; lunch / bottes imperméables; flacon d'eau; nourriture

DATE : SEPTEMBER 12 (SATURDAY) / 12 SEPTEMBRE (SAMEDI)

Topic / Sujet : Boulderwalk Trail (4.8 km), Spednic Lake Provincial Park / Sentier Boulderwalk (4,8 km), Parc provincial du lac Spednic; Location / Lieu : meeting place will be provided for participants / le lieu de rencontre sera fourni aux participants; Start time / Début : 10 am

Degree of difficulty / Difficulté : Easy to moderate, some wet spots / Facile à modérée, des lieux humides; Equipment /

Équipement : Hiking boots; water bottle; lunch/ bottes de marche; flacon d'eau; nourriture

DATE : OCTOBER 17 (SATURDAY) / 17 OCTOBRE (SAMEDI)

Annual General Meeting / Réunion Plénière Annuelle; Topic / Sujet : Additions to the NB Flora since 2001 / Ajouts à la flore du NB depuis 2001; Guest speakers / Conférenciers : to be announced / annonce ultérieure; Location / Lieu : Fredericton; Start Time / Début : 1pm détails to follow / renseignements à suivre

Pre-registration for all events (except for Odell park) would be appreciated.

Please contact Rick Fournier [rfournie@umce.ca](mailto:rfournie@umce.ca) if you hope to attend. /

JBS Group Black Brook: Members of the JBS in a Black Brook Swamp / Membres du groupe de JBS dans une tourbière de Black Brook  
Photo by / par R. Fournier

Le signalement antérieur pour les évènements (sauf pour le parc Odell) serait très apprécié.

Prière de contacter Rick Fournier [rfournie@umce.ca](mailto:rfournie@umce.ca) si vous désirez nous joindre.



## Mink



Sharon Megarity of the Kennebecasis Naturalists took this photo on April 25 in the Grand Lake Meadows along the old Trans Canada Highway just west of the Jemseg Bridge. The mink was most obliging, swimming around the shoreline until all had an opportunity to view him.

This page was omitted by accident from the last issue of the NB Naturalist. It was part of "Christmas Bird Count 2008-2009" in Vol. 36 No. 1. Apologies from the editorial team.

Inland+, 2008-09	RdB	Mir	Dal	Rst	Ssx	Htn	C-N	Jem	Ftn	Mac	Ch-M	Sy	Wsk	Hrt	Flo	G-J	P-A	Nic	SL	Etn	Ked	MIC	SEU	Paq
American Crow	25	85	31	43	1052	593	107	102	4000	1577	81	16	266	84	77	7	16	8	20	121	14	1	33	
Common Raven	13	30	14	80	6	44	30	37	96	85	28	28	7	14	9	10	5	24	20	52	20	8	1	34
Horned Lark									1									3						
Black-cap. Chickadee	71	321	77	404	189	1535	475	435	1108	430	291	202	317	184	237	192	169	132	117	239	166	6	6	173
Boreal Chickadee																								
Red-br. Nuthatch	2	21	2	10	1	50	22	12	44	8	9	19	3	10	5	4	12	15	3	2	7	3		15
White-br. Nuthatch																								
Brown Creeper									1															
Carolina Wren																								
Golden-crown. Kinglet																								
American Robin	2	1	2	1	19	34	2	1	84	365	3		2		3		1							
European Starling	47	316	60	499	816	587	225	195	600	365	263	69	714	109	128	140	14	7	71	145	56			53
Bohemian Waxwing	53	8	74	70	114	117	13	365	1152	8	*	3	39	*	13	10	*							
Cedar Waxwing																								
Eastern Towhee																								
Am. Tree Sparrow	20	*	2	1	71	43	84	44	42	16			18	11	25	2								2
Chipping Sparrow																								
Fox Sparrow																								
Song Sparrow																								
Swamp Sparrow																								
Wh-throat. Sparrow																								
Dark-eyed Junco	7	*	9	38	303	11	38	126	31	7	1		23	16	8	8	*	1	6	2	*			2
Lapland Longspur																								
Snow Bunting	3	27	83	31	98	416	40	60	48	32	72	30	75	124	50	141	44	96						152
Northern Cardinal																								
Red-wing. Blackbird																								
Rusty Blackbird																								
Common Grackle	1	1	1	3		1																		
Brown-hd. Cowbird																								
Pine Grosbeak	19	9	49	191	6	62	21	104	7	30	3	35	2	14	31	1	49	42	35	61	60	12	5	15
Purple Finch	*	*	*			5	3	6	14				1											
House Finch						22	32	17	2	2	4		4	81										
White-wing. Crossbill																								
Common Redpoll	90	123	36	34	9	105	167	23	155	120	1		2	1	7	1	1		10	1		33	58	3
Pine Siskin	*	1	3	168	7	*	40	68		260	256	146	118	216	41	3	40	1	*	26		16		
Am. Goldfinch	2	40	1	212	135	1172	269	251	631	152	130	74	53	61	63	29	64	29	100	166	35		40	
Evening Grosbeak	81	103	6	132	12	43	181	228	217	10	17	30	7	1	45	1	17	17	12 m					
House Sparrow																								
Unidentified																								
<b>TOTAL BIRDS</b>	543	1862	1000	2434	3199	6197	2171	3244	11796	2615	1863	924	2263	1196	1416	755	732	406	1016	1423	723	45	83	731
<b>TOTAL SPECIES</b>	22	31	27	38	40	53	34	35 k	53	37	28	24	28	27	30	20	24	21	19	33 p	23	9 r	9	24
<small>Add. seen in period</small>	4	5	8	1	0	8	4	3	3	2	2	4	2	1	0	6 t	0	8	3	4	0	0	2	

# Une Grande Dame nous a quittés...

Que de bons souvenirs me viennent à l'esprit en pensant à Rose-Aline. Cette aimante de la nature a accompli d'immenses choses, tant par son courage et sa joie de vivre que par sa détermination à profiter de la vie, et ce, malgré les épreuves dont elle a été affligée. Elle a été et restera un modèle et un symbole pour tous ceux et celles qui ont eu le privilège de la connaître et de la côtoyer.

Suite à son départ, bien des gens sont troublés de voir partir non seulement une naturaliste hors du commun, mais également la fondatrice de notre club de naturalistes et une défenderesse de l'environnement.

Depuis un certain temps, sachant que l'état de santé de Rose-Aline se détériorait, ma conjointe Denise me disait : « Je suis certaine que Rose-Aline va attendre au printemps, afin de migrer vers un autre monde, elle qui accorde tellement d'importance à la période migratoire printanière ». Impuissant devant l'inévitable, il faut accepter ce qui est et lui souhaiter bon voyage.

Je ne peux passer sous silence les événements vécus peu après son départ, soit le 16 avril dernier. Ce midi-là, exceptionnellement, mon épouse est venue dîner à la maison sans prévenir, ce qui arrive très rarement. Je lui ai appris la triste nouvelle, car, sachant qu'elle en serait troublée dans son travail et que ce sont des nouvelles qui se transmettent difficilement par le biais d'une conversation téléphonique, je n'avais pas osé lui annoncer par téléphone.

En jasant de Rose-Aline, mon épouse me dit, et je cite : « Quel oiseau rare Rose-Aline va bien nous faire voir afin

de nous donner un signe, comme le veut la coutume lors du décès d'une connaissance qui nous est chère ? » Elle poursuit en ajoutant que Rose-Aline était une personne qui aimait tant rire, me disant qu'elle riait tout le temps et que j'avais le tour de la faire rire aux éclats. Elle m'a rappelé la fois où je l'avais fait rire aux larmes dans une chambre de motel lors d'un voyage ornithologique.

À 15 h, Jacques Guignard me dit que l'Oie rieuse est en ce moment présente à Coteau Road chez M. Léonard Hébert. Je m'empresse d'aller la voir où j'ai pu observer l'oiseau dans toute sa splendeur et plus encore, j'ai eu la chance de rencontrer Hilaire qui était venu pour la même raison. Nous étions seuls sur le bord de la route et nous avons eu la chance de partager. Merci ! Rose-Aline, d'avoir su organiser une telle rencontre entre moi et Hilaire...

Durant son métier d'enseignante, combien de fois a-t-elle dû se faire appeler « Madame »... Je me souviens que moi-même, pour la faire rire lors de sorties ornithologiques, je l'interpellais en disant « Madaaame », avec résonance... Combien de fois pendant son métier d'enseignante, a-t-elle dû raconter à ses élèves « l'histoire de Madame l'Oie », celle qui avait concocté un copieux repas et avait omis d'inviter ses invités...

Aujourd'hui, Madame l'Oie rieuse a pris son envol. Elle est partie en voyage vers un monde meilleur et a omis d'aviser ses amis... Bon voyage Rose-Aline !

Si vous tentez de la rejoindre, soyez patient, elle est sûrement en train d'observer les « Oiseaux du paradis »...

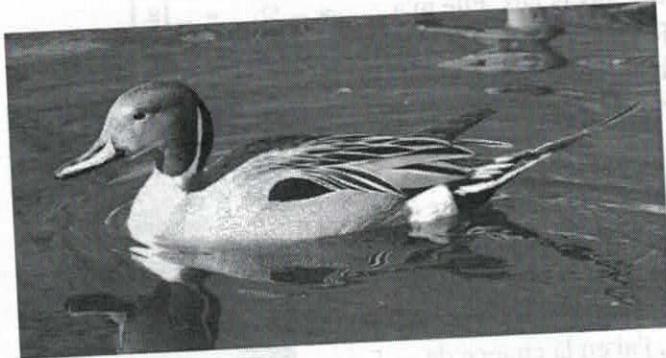
Gérard Benoit  
Lamèque



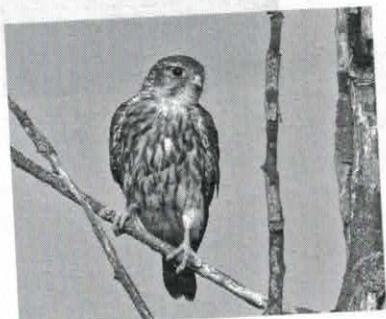
Rose-Aline Chiasson  
Photo par R. Robichaud

Gilles Belliveau  
Fredericton

Abbreviations: (GMI: Grand Manan Island; MSI: Machias Seal Island; NMIL: Nature Moncton Information Line.)



Northern Pintail  
Photo by H. Scarth



Merlin  
Photo by H. Scarth

## Nature News: Birds

January 13 to April 14, 2009

A male EURASIAN WIGEON (Canard siffleur) was seen in Maugerville on Apr 5 by Gilles Belliveau.

Stuart Tingley observed a NORTHERN PINTAIL (Canard pilet) in Saint John on Jan 13. Another male Pintail was ob-

served by Gilles Bourque on Feb 22 at Mapleton Park in Moncton when he went to investigate an unidentified duck reported by Emile Cormier on Feb 19.

On Jan 13, Stuart Tingley was able to observe both the immature male and the adult male TUFTED DUCK (Fuligule morillon) that had been previously reported in Saint John.

There were several KING EIDERS (Eider à tête grise) observed this winter. An adult male was observed at Cape Tormentine on Jan 13 by Hank and Carolyn Scarth. Roger Burrows also reported two immature male King Eiders from the White Head Ferry on Jan 27 and a female King Eider from the White Head Ferry on Feb 10. Another adult male King Eider was seen in St. Andrews by Tracey Dean on Feb 17. Richard Blacquiere also observed an adult male at the Point Lepreau Bird Observatory on Apr 6.

A PACIFIC LOON (Plongeon du Pacifique) was seen from the White Head Ferry by Roger Burrows on Mar 23.

On Jan 22, Stuart Tingley saw a TURKEY VULTURE (Urubu à tête rouge) in Shediac. Additional Turkey Vultures

were observed on Mar 18 by Joanne Savage in Hammond River and Richard Blacquiere in Hampton and were likely migrants returning to the province.

On Feb 6, Merv Cormier reported a COOPER'S HAWK (Épervier de Cooper) had visited his yard the previous week. Brian Dalzell saw a Cooper's Hawk on Apr 10 at the old dump site along the Whistle Road on Grand Manan.

A RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (Buse à épaulettes) was observed in Lower Hampstead on Mar 27 by Jim Wilson, Merv Cormier, Harvey McLeod, and Richard Blacquiere.

David Christie and Mary Majka saw an adult GOLDEN EAGLE (Aigle royal) on Jan 27 in the Waterside area. Jim Wilson, Merv Cormier, and Todd Watts also saw a Golden Eagle in the Daniel's Marsh area of Albert County on Feb 26.

There seemed to be an influx of over-wintering MERLINS (Faucon émerillon) this winter. Here's a list of the ones reported: Jan 21 in Saint-Antoine (Maria Alain), Jan 28 in Stilesville (Kevin Renton) and Shédiac (Linda Forest), Feb 1 at Ingalls Head on Grand Manan (Roger Burrows), Feb 4 in Quispamsis (Jim Wilson), Feb 11 in Riverview (John Tanner), Feb 18 in Moncton (Gilles Bourque), and Feb 23 in Taylor Village (Alain Clavette).

There were also a few over-wintering PEREGRINE FALCONS (Faucon pèlerine) this winter. Stuart Tingley observed one in Saint John on Jan 13. Ralph Eldridge saw one on Machias Seal Island on Jan 14, and another one was seen on Feb 10 at White Head Island (Roger Burrows).

Roger Burrows saw two SANDERLINGS (Bécasseau sanderling) on Jan 20 at Long Pond Bay on Grand Manan.

On Feb 5, Jim and Jean Wilson saw a first-winter BLACK-HEADED GULL (Mouette rieuse) at Black's Harbour.

Stuart Tingley and Gilles Belliveau saw a first-winter and an adult bird at Black's Harbour on Feb 7. On Feb 18, a first-winter Black-headed Gull was seen in Castalia Marsh on Grand Manan by Norm and Gisèle Belliveau, Rose-Alma Mallet, Stuart Tingley, and Gilles Belliveau.

A EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE (Tourterelle torque) that appeared at the home of John Inman in Harvey Bank last fall was still present as of Apr 10.

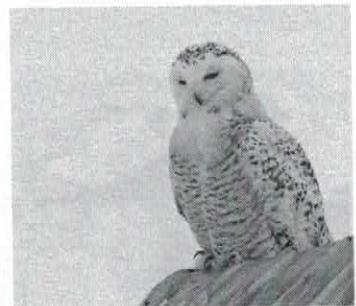
There were several SNOWY OWLS (Harfang des neiges) seen within the province this winter. On Jan 16, a Snowy Owl was seen in the Highfield Square area of Moncton (fide Roger Leblanc). On Jan 25, Moira Lawrence reported that she had seen a Snowy Owl around the Riverview High School twice in the past week. On Feb 6 and 12, Dale Delucry spotted an owl flying in to land on the light towers near the Westmorland Street Bridge in Fredericton, and it was identified as a Snowy Owl by Jim Goltz on Feb 15. Ralph Eldridge saw one near the Grand Manan airport on Apr 1 and Brian Dalzell saw one at Bancroft Point on Grand Manan on Apr 8. On Apr 10, Roger Leblanc, Alain Clavette, and Hubert Cormier saw two Snowy Owls in the marsh below Fort Beausejour in Aulac. There were as many as three Snowy Owls present through the winter along the High Marsh Road section of the Tantramar Marsh (many observers).

A NORTHERN HAWK OWL (Chouette épervière) was seen by many observers through the winter in the Waterside area.

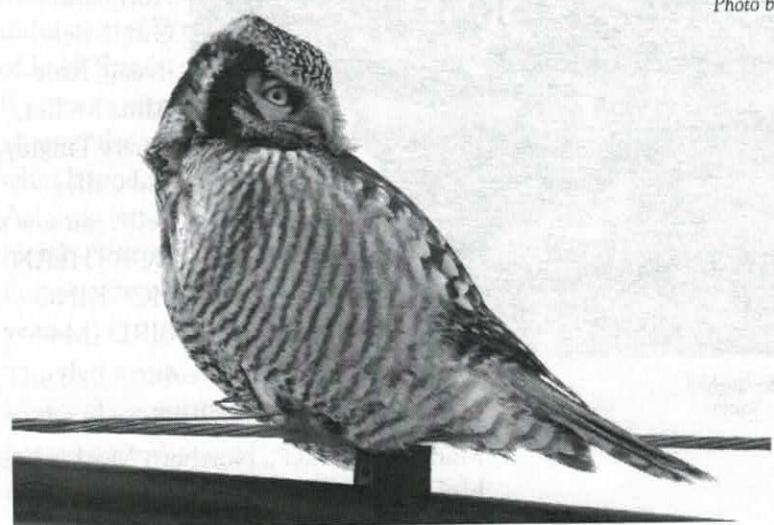
Juliette Pelerin reported that there was a BOREAL OWL (Nyctale de Tengmalm) seen in Shédiac on Mar 9. Fred Dubé and Lynn Richards had a Boreal Owl visit their yard in the Lower Coverdale area on Mar 14.

Norm and Gisèle Belliveau and Rose-Alma Mallet saw two SHORT-EARED OWLS (Hibou des marais) on the Tantramar Marsh on Jan 19. On Jan 21, Roger Leblanc spotted two Short-eared Owls in Moncton in the marsh behind Chateau Moncton. Richard Blacquiere also saw one at Point Lepreau on Apr 6.

An influx of RED-BELLIED WOOD-PECKERS (Pic à ventre roux) appeared in the province last fall and some of them continued to be seen through the winter. Kathy Popma had a female in her Sackville yard on Jan 19 and John Chardine reported a male in his Sackville yard on Jan 22. Joan Pearce reported that she had a male attending her feeders in Saint John on Jan 22 and Linda Forest had one in her Shédiac yard on Jan 27. Bill and Marguerite Winsor reported that one was attending their friends' feeders in Salisbury on Feb 8. Ron Steeves also reported that he still had one frequenting his Salisbury feeders regularly on Feb 8. On Feb 13, Dorine Bourgeois, who lives in the Cornwall



Snowy Owl  
Photo by H. Scarth



Northern Hawk Owl  
Photo by H. Scarth



Northern Flicker  
Photo by C. Clunis



Fox Sparrow  
Photo by H. Scarth



Northern Mockingbird  
Photo by H. Scarth

Point area of Shédiac, reported that a Red-bellied Woodpecker was still coming to her yard sporadically. On Mar 18, John Tanner reported that one had been visiting his Riverview yard occasionally through the winter.

On Jan 15, Roger Burrows had a male NORTHERN FLICKER (*Pic flamboyant*) at his feeders at Ingall's Head on Grand Manan. Elaine Gallant had a male appear at her yard in Shédiac on Feb 14 and mentioned that she had a female in her yard approximately one month earlier. Juliette Pelerin had one frequenting her yard at Cap Brûlé through the winter and she reported that a second one appeared on Mar 9.

Gilles Belliveau saw a fairly early EASTERN PHOEBE (*Moucherolle phébi*) in Lower Jemseg on Mar 27.

On Mar 10, Jim Wilson and Merv Cormier saw two TUFTED TITMICE (*Mésange bicolore*) in St Andrews.

Sandra and Glenn Tremblay had a CAROLINA WREN (*Troglodyte de Caroline*) appear at their Fredericton feeders on Jan 17 and 18.

On Mar 10, Roger Burrows heard a WINTER WREN (*Troglodyte mignon*) in full song on White Head Island.

On Feb 1, Norm and Gisèle Belliveau, Rose-Alma Mallet, Stuart Tingley, and Gilles Belliveau saw a NORTHERN MOCKING-BIRD (*Moqueur pyly-*

*glotte*) in Cape Tormentine.

Marg Fanjoy had a Northern Mockingbird visit her yard in Moncton on Feb 25.

On Jan 21, Norm and Gisèle Belliveau and Rose-Alma Mallet saw one YELL-LOW-RUMPED WARBLER (*Paruline à croupion jaune*) in Bayfield and two more in Cape Tormentine.

Dorine Bourgeois reported on Jan 18 that she had a PINE WARBLER (*Paruline des pins*) coming to her feeders in Shédiac daily.

Vivian Galley of Campobello Island had an adult male SUMMER TANAGER (*Tangara vermillion*) appear at her feeders on Apr 4 and 5.

A male EASTERN TOWHEE (*Tohi à flanc roux*) spent the winter in the yard of Maurice Leblanc in Dieppe. Dorinne Bourgeois reported on Jan 18 that she had a male show up at her feeders in Shédiac.

A FIELD SPARROW (*Bruant des champs*) appeared in Merv Cormier's yard in Saint John on Jan 28.

Doreen Rossiter had a SAVANNAH SPARROW (*Bruant des prés*) appear in her yard in Alma on Feb 7.

Roger Burrows had a FOX SPARROW (*Bruant fauve*) at his feeders on Jan 23 at Ingall's Head on Grand Manan. On Feb 19, Paul Mansz had a Fox Sparrow appear at his feeders in Rothesay.

A warm front moving up the eastern seaboard in early April brought a number of early INDIGO BUNTINGS (*Passer indigo*) into the province. On Apr 4, Bruce Loughery photographed a male Loch Lomond and Sharon Geldart had a male appear at her feeders in Arthurette. On Apr 5, Brian Dalzell found one at Seal Cove on Grand Manan and Helen McLaughlin had one appear at her Bloomfield feeders. On Apr 7, Joan Pearce had one show up in her Saint John yard and on Apr 9, Brian Dalzell found one in Woodwards Cove on Grand Manan.

On Apr 8, Gwen and Clint Galley had an Indigo Bunting and a rather early ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (Cardinal à poitrine rose) in their Mispec yard.

Louise Malloch of Little Lepreau was surprised to see two blue birds at her feeders on Apr 5 – an adult male Indigo Bunting and an adult male BLUE GROSBEAK (Guiraca bleu).

Bessie Bass had a male PAINTED BUNTING (Passerin nonpareil) appear in her yard in North Head on Grand Manan at the end of November 2008. The bird continued to frequent her feeders all winter long.

On Jan 13, David Christie saw an EASTERN MEADOWLARK (Sturnelle des prés) in New Horton that he and Mary Majka had found a few days earlier.

Nev Garrity reported on Jan 14 that as many as seven RUSTY BLACKBIRDS (Quiscale rouilleux) were daily visitors at the feeders of Bev Illsley in Dorches-

ter. Another Rusty Blackbird was seen in Cape Tormentine on Jan 21 by Norm and Gisèle Belliveau and Rose-Alma Mallet.

The number of HOARY REDPOLLS (Sizerin blanchâtre) present this winter was also noteworthy. Here is a list of the records that I saw reported: Jan 17 in Douglas (Dwayne Sabine), Jan 19 in Scoudouc (Norm and Gisèle Belliveau), Jan 26 in Gagetown (Keith and Roberta MacKenzie) and in Shédiac Cape (Stuart Tingley), Jan 28 at Ingalls Head on Grand Manan (Roger Burrows), Jan 30 in Moncton (Roger Leblanc – had two on Mar 18), Feb 14 in Shemogue and Cape Tormentine (Norm and Gisèle Belliveau, Stuart Tingley, and Gilles Belliveau), Feb 15 in Stilesville (Jean Renton), Feb 19 in Taylor Village (Alain Clavette – had three on Mar 16), Mar 22 in Bertrand (André Haché), Apr 10 along the Bay of Chaleur coast (Roger Guitard and John Kowtaluk), and Apr 13 at Mary's Point (David Christie).

## Spring Fever

Joseph Wood Krutch, that delightful, wise and articulate essayist, once quoted humorist Will Cuppy's remark that the ability to distinguish one North American sparrow from another was a gift that seemed to be hereditary in certain New England families.

Things have changed. Birdwatching, if not exactly de rigueur, is at least widely tolerated, and in most ways this is all to the good. There have been some unexpected developments, however, arising out of the sheer scale of the pastime. Such masses of people can go 'critical' like a termite colony or an atomic pile.

Point Pelee during the height of the spring migration in May is a good place to observe the phenomenon. Situated 30 miles east of Windsor on the north shore of Lake Erie in southwestern Ontario, it attracts regulars and newcomers from all over the world. They come to see what happens where the Mississippi and Atlantic flyways converge. Most birds in North America, it seems, and some from Eurasia, have appeared there over the years.

The birders who make their pilgrimage to the place are diverse in the extreme, but contain the seeds of an incipient meltdown. There is little threat from the

Bill Martin  
Fredericton

neophytes, huddled in groups, pointing at catbirds, heads buried in bird guides, wondering which section to look at: happy folk with all their fun ahead of them. Little threat either from those who move like sleepwalkers through the woods, hands behind their backs, sweet smiles of serenity on their faces, obviously transported and out to lunch.

No; the real hazard comes from the "serious birders".

Even these fall into different categories: biologists having a busman's holiday, young Turks eager to establish and extend their credibility as hotshot finders and identifiers, the elder statesmen of the birding world watching wistfully what may well be their last spring migration, and the rank and file. We're there to reassure ourselves that nature is functioning as we wish and that the mites of dazzling colours we've come so far to see are still alive and well on the planet. We are there to relax, stroll around, tick off the warblers one by one, sit on logs in woods and allow the birds to show themselves for our delight and satisfaction – or so we think.

We forget each year that this is now an enthusiastically competitive sport, an

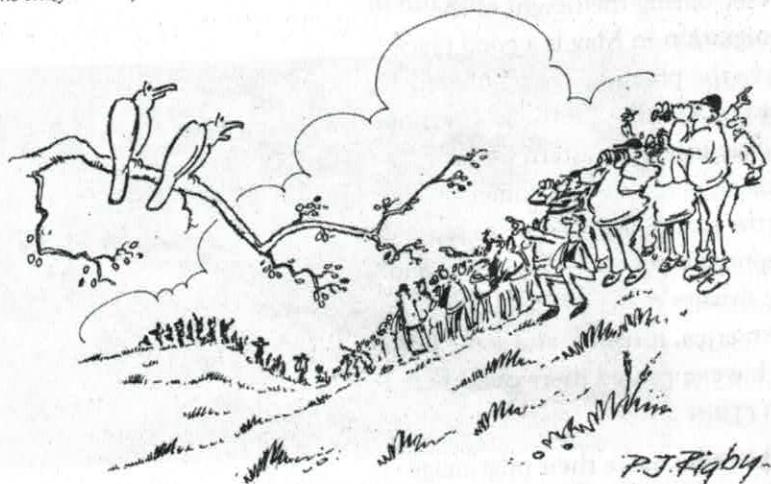
ego trip for some, in which the birds seen seem secondary to the seeker's score. (Judge not, that ye be not judged.) We forget each year that the name of the game as it unfolds is not to see one's first Prairie warbler of the year, but to see it before anyone else. All sightings are scribbled in a book set out on the counter in the visitors centre for all to see. "Look. See! Look at me! I've seen a Blackpoll warbler on April 30th."

What began as a slow, relaxed, laidback stroll through Tilden's Woods, after one fatal glance at the sightings book, becomes an acid-stomached form of catch-up gamesmanship. How can he possibly have seen a Blackpoll warbler so early in the year? But all is possible, as you know; your heart aches to see a Blackpoll, the game is on and you've got the bug. You have spring fever.

Serious erosion of one's rational thought processes now takes place, and you're up at 4 a.m. down to the tip of the Point on the first propane-powered train to try to see the Piping plover, the Arctic tern, a Glossy ibis, King eider – whatever. You hack along long-cold trails after a Kentucky warbler, a Sedge wren – "Oh, didn't you get that one?" – and drive 30 miles to look for the Purple gallinule from Florida seen three days before. Shamelessly, you cozy up to birders who seem to be on a roll to see if some of their luck rubs off on you. All sewage lagoons in two counties are scoured for the Curlew sandpiper, the Ruff, the Red-necked phalarope and Eared grebe, sightings of which have been stirring your envy into a frenzied roil.

This is the dangerous stage. Let someone shout "Dickcissel" – a rather uncommon bird in Ontario – and you find yourself joining others hurtling towards the caller at the full gallop, rounding a corner ten abreast, leaping over shrubs and skidding

Cartoon by Peter Rigby  
The crazy world of Bird Watching



"1,492, 1,493... This people-count gets more difficult every year."

to a halt among a huge knot of people to catch a glimpse of the bird. And each new wave of arrivals exclaims: "Oh, there it is - see it? There! Well, it's gone now - here a moment ago."

This is bad enough, but there are by now too many birders in the park, all with a hungry eye. Just let a rare bird be discovered on a slow day and all hell breaks loose. The car park empties suddenly – news travels as if on a bush telegraph – and the next thing you know you are scrambling for your vehicle, jumping in and racing up the road faster than you should.

Pretty soon you reach the scene and it's a bad one. Cars are parked all over the sides of the road like the aftermath of a tank battle. Doors hang open blocking traffic in both directions. Crowds of people are trampling all over the mats of May apple and other wildflowers, pushing their way forward to the front of a ring of birders who are staring at a petri-

fied little Cassins sparrow – an overshoot from Texas – cowering in the hollow of a fallen tree. Everyone looks slightly ashamed but still defiant. "Yes, it's pretty bad, I guess, but you do understand, don't you?" they seem to say. "I mean, you're here yourself aren't you?"

Just how far you would sink into sheer irresponsible lunacy is anyone's guess, but mercifully you are saved by a Good Day. This has all the effects of a dose of antibiotics, and at least your secondary infections are squashed. Suddenly, the weather warms up and birds are popping out all over. You stand riveted to one spot, awestruck and happy, watching most of the warblers in the book feeding furiously less than fifteen feet away. Towards dusk, you know you've seen well over a hundred species of birds since dawn, and your fever breaks. You are now content to look at and enjoy, instead of looking for all day. You check the date and think about heading home.

## Fall and Winter Diet of Coastal Bald Eagles in New Brunswick

Bald eagles are opportunistic feeders, surviving on live or dead animal matter. Much of New Brunswick waters during the winter months are ice-covered, but Passamaquoddy Bay (part of the Bay of Fundy) allows the use of open salt water in their winter feeding.

Random observations of eagles using Passamaquoddy Bay during October to March of 1999-2008 (ten years) were used in this study. The area included coastal shorelines from St. Stephen to Pocologan and the accompanying coastal waters. Both land and water sightings were used; consequently, feeding oc-

curred in both aquatic and non-aquatic habitats. A total of 8714 bald eagles were recorded during the ten-year period (refer to Table 1). The observations were quite random from month to month, depending on the availability of the observer.

Eagle abundance in the Passamaquoddy Bay area has increased over the years. For example, approximately two hundred eagles in early 2000 increased to over three hundred birds in 2008. The majority of the birds seen were immature (i.e., less than five years old). Eagles typically increase in number here during October

Rudy Stocek  
Fredericton  
Ralph Eldridge  
St. George

to January, then decrease into March, when many birds distribute themselves throughout the province for nesting.

An average of 11 percent of the observed birds was seen feeding during the ten years (see Table 1). A total of 919 feeding occurrences were recorded. A feeding observation, or occurrence, is defined as one eagle feeding on one food item at a particular site on any one day. Feeding refers to an eagle pursuing, catching, restraining, killing, or consuming a prey item and includes carrion or offal consumption.

Bald eagles observed and feeding occurrences seen at the Passomoquoddy Bay area, October to March, 1999-2008.					
Year	Eagles Seen	Percent Feeding	Feeding Occurrences	Feeding Attacks	Percent Success
1998-1999	450	17,5	84	23	4,3
1999-2000	1076	1,6	22	33	12,1
2000-2001	378	9,3	39	62	6,4
2001-2002	871	7	53	55	10,9
2002-2003	1143	4,5	56	87	4,6
2003-2004	840	7,6	69	78	3,8
2004-2005	864	4,5	41	100	14
2005-2006	615	7,6	55	105	7,6
2006-2007	1097	14,3	162	94	5,3
2007-2008	1380	21,2	338	219	11,9
<b>Total</b>	<b>8714</b>		<b>919</b>	<b>856</b>	

Two young Bald eagles in Irishtown  
Photo by R. Chiasson



The variety of food items consumed is shown in Table 2. Fish offal refers to salmon that were culled from local fish pens and dumped at a convenient composting site. The presence of wild fish in the diet in the fall and winter along the coast is very limited (2 percent).

Fish runs along the coastal estuaries during the late winter are not that appealing to eagles.

A great variety of aquatic birds, however, contributed to the eagle diet (38 percent). Gulls (herring and ring-billed mostly)

were commonly taken (53 percent of the birds preyed upon). Included in the bird list were gannets, fulmars, harlequin ducks, and a variety of alcides.

White-tailed deer was consumed at a high rate (46 percent of the food items taken), which contributed to the 49 percent mammal value in the overall eagle diet. Deer either had (1) died during the winter (e.g., from starvation) or (2) been legally shot and butchered in the field or (3) been killed by a vehicle on the nearby coastal highway. These animals, or parts thereof, were usually put out by forest rangers at local depot areas. Other mammals consumed included moose, otter, snowshoe hare, muskrat, and seal. Miscellaneous or unidentified animal matter represented 5 percent of the diet and included a snapping turtle.

A considerable number of attacks on birds by eagles were recorded during the ten-year period (refer to Table 1); however, the success rates of acquiring food from these attacks was rather low. Of the 856 attacks, only 8.76 percent were successful (and included in the 919 feeding occurrences). The success rate, while lower in October and March, were pretty consistent, ranging from 10 to 12 percent from November through February.

In total, 422 (49 percent) of the birds attacked were gulls and contributed 55 percent of the food items taken in this manner. Common mergansers were attacked in 207 (24 percent) of the cases and provided 16 percent of the food taken this way. While common eiders were attacked 128 times, only eight were taken as food (13 percent). Other birds (loon, harlequin duck, black duck, cormorant, alcides, fulmar, murre) contributed to a lesser degree (16 percent) in the overall success of food acquisition by the bald eagle attacks.

The results of this extensive study suggest then that:

- (1) Only an average of 11 percent of the 8714 eagles were seen feeding during the ten years.
- (2) The great variety of food items eaten by coastal bald eagles do not include fish.
- (3) Aquatic birds are a common source of protein here.
- (4) Dead white-tailed deer provide a good portion of the diet.
- (5) Less than 10 percent of the live food items (birds) attacked by eagles (856) contributed to the eagles' diet.

Table 2. Bald eagle food items identified in 919 feeding occurrences, October to March, 1999-2008.	
Fish: 7.4%	Mammals: 49.0%
Unidentified fish	White-tailed deer
Fish offal	Otter
Birds: 38.1%	Moose
Common eider	Snowshoe hare
Gull	Seal
Common merganser	Muskrat
Common murre	
Razorbill	Other Animal Matter: 5.4%
Atlantic puffin	Snapping turtle
Unidentified alcid	Unidentified material
Black duck	
Cormorant	
Harlequin duck	
Common loon	
Crow	
Great-horned owl	
Gannet	
Fulmar	
Unidentified bird	

## In Memory of Rose-Aline Chiasson À la mémoire de Rose-Aline Chiasson

Mary Maijka  
Mary's Point

Rose-Aline Chiasson was much involved with and deeply connected to nature, and always interested in children. That is why I thought that she would have been pleased and happy to know that our Federation will be assisting kids to attend nature camps in her memory.

This year I'm sending a boy and a girl to the camp in Moncton. I urge all of those who want to honour Rose-Aline to contribute to Nature NB's scholarship fund, which for years has helped youngsters attend workshops or camps. It is a fund I initiated with the Federation (now Nature NB).

Donations in Rose-Aline's memory will be used to assist francophone youngsters. For more information about the camps this year and an application form, see <http://www.naturenb.ca/Francais/summercampFR.htm> or

<http://www.naturenb.ca/English/summercamp.htm>.

Rose-Aline Chiasson avait une implication constante et un intérêt profond pour la nature. Elle avait aussi une préoccupation de partager cet amour de la nature avec les jeunes. C'est pourquoi j'ai pensé qu'elle aurait beaucoup aimé que notre fédération aide des jeunes à participer à des camps d'été en sa mémoire. Cette année, j'envoie moi-même deux jeunes au camp de Moncton. Et j'encourage fortement tous ceux et celles qui veulent honorer la mémoire de Rose-Aline à contribuer au fond de bourses de Nature NB qui, depuis plusieurs années, aide des jeunes à participer à des ateliers et camps d'été. Il s'agit d'un fond que j'avais moi-même initié avec la Fédération (maintenant Nature NB).

Vos dons à la mémoire de Rose-Aline serviront à aider des jeunes francophones. Pour plus d'information au sujet des camps et pour des formulaires de demande, adressez-vous à <http://www.naturenb.ca/Francais/summercampFR.htm> ou <http://www.naturenb.ca/English/summercamp.htm>.

# Botany Corner - Willows

Gart Bishop  
Sussex  
Bev Benedict  
Fredericton

Drawings by F.S. Mathews;  
Scanned images from the collections of Connell (UNB) and NBM herbaria.

Identification of the 21 different species of willows occurring in New Brunswick can be somewhat overwhelming as differences are sometimes subtle or indistinct, and hybrid species have a mixture of features. The following graphic key along with the chart outlining some the pertinent characteristics may be helpful.

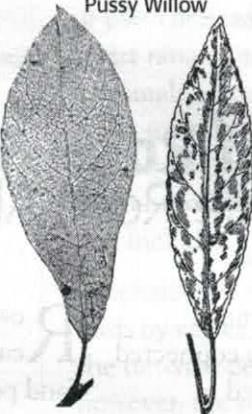
This graphic key to the willows was developed for a workshop conducted in March 2009.

## Broad leaved with wedge-shaped leaf base

*S. bebbiana*  
Bebb's Willow



*S. discolor*  
Pussy Willow



*S. humilis*  
Prairie Willow



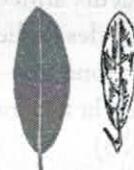
Impressed veins on top, wrinkly veins beneath, often oblong when mature, never with rusty hairs

Often oblong leaves, sometimes with rusty hairs, margins usually toothed above middle, never with impressed veins

Leaves irregularly toothed, crenate to entire

## Small leaves (< 4 cm)

*S. pedicellaris*  
Bog Willow



In bog, leaves never larger than 4 cm long

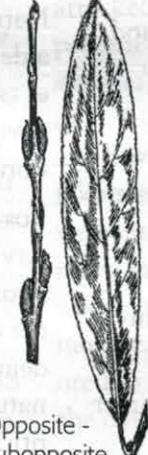
*S. uva-ursi*  
Bearberry Willow



Not yet in NB, but likely, small (< 15 cm high)

## Opposite

*S. purpurea*  
Basket Willow



Opposite - subopposite buds / leaves

## In fens, calcareous/gypsum

*S. myrtillifolia*  
Myrtle-leaved Willow



Regularly toothed margin, found only on gypsum cliffs at Albert Mines

*S. candida*  
Hoary Willow



Very hairy beneath, S2 calciphile

### Broad leaved, with rounded to cordate leaf base

*S. lucida*  
Shining Willow



Long attenuate tip,  
glands at petiole / blade  
junction, can be 2X this  
size; leaves shiny

*S. eriocephala*  
Red-tipped Willow



Heartshaped base, often  
with large stipules, fre-  
quent host of pinecone  
gall

*S. myricoides*  
Bayberry Willow



Often heart-  
shaped base

*S. pyrifolia*  
Balsam Willow



Broad, rounded leaf  
base (sometimes  
heartshaped, sweet  
balsam (spicy) smell

### Lanceolate leaves, with curved sides

*S. alba*  
White Willow



Usually a  
tree

*S. x rubens*



Leaf tip long  
acuminate, leaf  
glaucous beneath  
± silky

*S. x sericans*



Leaf margin revolute  
+ pubescent beneath

*S. sericea*  
Silky Willow



Regularly  
toothed, leaf  
tip acute to  
acuminate,  
silky hairy  
beneath

*S. serissima*  
Autumn Willow



Regularly  
toothed, S1 cal-  
ciphile; leaf tip  
acute to short  
acuminate,  
hairless leaves

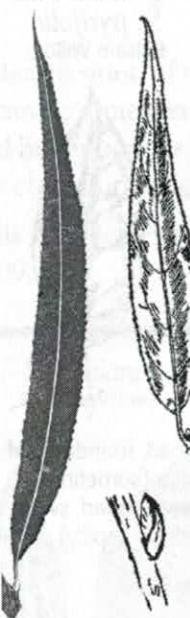
*S. petiolaris*  
Slender Willow



Leaf margin denticu-  
late, irregularly serrate,  
not revolute; petioles  
3-10 mm

## Narrow leaves, almost parallel sides

*S. nigra*  
Black Willow



Wrap-around bud,  
marginal veins, margin  
not revolute

*S. viminalis*  
Osier Willow



Leaf margin  
revolute, commonly  
orange mid-vein,  
branches flexible,  
leaves crowded

*S. pellita*  
Satin Willow



Leaves scattered or well  
spaced, leathery; ma-  
ture branches brittle at  
base, revolute, straight  
+ curly silvery hairs

*S. exigua*  
Sandbar Willow



Leaf margins re-  
motely and often  
sharp toothed,  
petiole<5 mm

For those of you intrigued with willows and wishing to learn more the following list of references is provided. Please note that the George Argus paper is available free from the internet. It is quite detailed and takes time to be able to use it. The Haines and Vining Flora of Maine presents good keys (good but a bit technical) to flowering willows, having separate keys for male and female flowers. They also have a key to non-flowering willows.

### References

- Argus, George W. 2006. Guide to Salix (Willow) in the Canadian Maritime Provinces (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island). Private paper, available on the net at: <http://aknhp.uaa.alaska.edu/willow/pdfs/GuideMaritimeSalix28JUN06.pdf>
- Argus, George W. 2005. Guide to the interactive identification of native and naturalized New World Salix using Intkey(Delta) Including some species from Europe and the Russian Far East. <http://flora.huh.harvard.edu:8080/actkey/actkey.jsp?setid=3390>
- Haines, A. & T.F. Vining. 1998. Flora of Maine, A Manual for Identification of Native and Naturalized Vascular Plants of Maine. V.F. Thomas Co. Bar Harbor, Maine.
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- Newsholme, Christopher 1992. Willows, the genus Salix. Timber Press, Portland Oregon.
- Soper, J.H. & M.L. Heimburger 1982. Shrubs of Ontario. Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, ON.

Latin Name Common Name	Wetland Indicator	Stems # SF	4=Tree 3=Tall Shrub 2=Med. Shrub 1=Low Shrub	Capsule Texture	Stamen #, Filament hairiness	Leaves Toothed Leaves Hairy	Spurules Present Glands on petiole below leaf blade	Leaves N=narrow I=inter. W=wide	Leaf width N=narrow I=inter. W=wide	Flowering before leaves emerge=(1) Flowering as leaves emerge=(2) Flowering after leaves emerge=(3)
<i>S. alba</i> White willow	FACW	4	Glabrous	2, hairy on lower half	no	yes mostly above middle	no	1	1	(2) Leaves white hairy; stems may be drooping. Branchlets persistent silk.
<i>S. myricifolia</i> Bleachberry willow	SI	1:2	Glabrous	2, glabrous	yes	no no	yes	I-W	I-W	(2) Found only on gypsum outcrops.
<i>S. bebbiana</i> Bebb's/Braked willow	FACW	S5	2:4	Finely gray pubescent	2, glabrous or hairy on low half	no	no	+	W	(1 or 2) Leaves often oblong. Leaves gray-woolly, veins impressed.
<i>S. canescens</i> Lisort/Silver willow	OBL	S2	1:2	Tomentose or wooly	2, glabrous	yes	no	no	N	(2) Very hairy, revolute leaves. Limited to calcareous bogs/ancient areas.
<i>S. discolor</i> Pussy willow	FACW	S5	3	Hairy, short silky	2, glabrous, hairy at base	yes	no	mostly above middle	W	(1) Leaves often oblong. The first willow to flower in the spring
<i>S. eriocephala</i> Diamond/Red-tipped/Heartleaf willow	FACW	S5	2:4	Glabrous, red tinged	2, glabrous	yes	no	yes	I-W	(1) Leaf base often heart-shaped. Gravelly or sandy shores.
<i>S. exigua</i> (S. interior) Sandbar willow	OBL	S4?	3:4	Longsilky or glabrescent	no	no	+	mostly above middle	N	(2) Leafstalks nearly lacking. Clonal growth. River bars, beaches and alluvial shores.
<i>S. humilis</i> Prairie/Small pussy/Dwarf willow	FAC+	S5	2	Mod. densely to sparsely short silky	2, glabrous	+	no	yes	I	(1) One of the first willows to flower in the spring. Tolerates drier sites, sandy soils. Often forms thickets, esp. around residue.
<i>S. lucida</i> Shining willow	FACW	S5	3:4	Glabrous	3-6, hairy on lower half or at base	yes	no	yes	I-W	(2) Leaves with long tapered point, shiny leaves
<i>S. myrsinoides</i> Balsamberry/Blue leaved willow	FAC	S3	1:3	Silky	2, glabrous	yes	no	no	W	(1 or 2) Leaf bases heart shaped. Undersides of leaves whitened.
<i>S. nigra</i> Black willow	FACW+	S3	4	Glabrous, rarely pilose	4-6, hairy on lower half or at base	yes	no	no	yes	N
<i>S. pedicellaris</i> Basket willow	OBL	S3	1:2	Glabrous, often glaucous. & red	2, glabrous or hairy on lower half or at base	no	no	yes	no	W?
<i>S. pellita</i> Silky/Satin willow	FACW	S4:S5	2:3	Short silky	2, glabrous or hairy at base	no	no	yes	no	(2) Tallest native tree 20+ m. Buds have overlapping scales. Leaves lighter but not glaucous beneath.
<i>S. petiolaris</i> Slender/Meadow willow	OBL	S5	3	Glabrous/short silky	2, hairy at base	no	no	no	yes	(2) Leaf margin often revolute. Leaves leathery. Decumbent habit. Roots and acid shrubland meadows.
<i>S. purpurea</i> Basket willow/Purple osier	SE	2:4	short silky	1, hairy at base	no	no	no	mostly above middle	W	(1) Petioles relatively long. Leaves leathery, revolute, hairy and strongly glaucous. Bristle twigs.
<i>S. pyrifolia</i> Balsam willow	FACW	S5	1:3	Glabrous	2, glabrous or sparsely hairy at base	no	+	+	W	(2) Leaves smell of sweet balsam. Leaf bases broad. Edges of bogs and wet meadows.
<i>S. x rubens</i> <i>S. alba</i> x <i>S. fragilis</i>	SE	4			2, hairy on lower half	+	yes	+	1	Leaves may be erect or drooping. Females flowers sterile, male flowers produce pollen. Undersides of leaves glaucous.
<i>S. x sericea</i>	SE	4					yes			Leaf margin revolute.
<i>S. canescens</i> x <i>S. viminalis</i>	OBL	S5	3	Mod. to dense short silky	2, glabrous to hairy at base	yes	no	mostly above middle	1	Leaves mostly silky (sericeous) beneath (much may have disintegrated by August). Leaves blacken upon drying.
<i>S. sericea</i>	OBL	S1	2:3	Short silky	2, glabrous	no	yes	yes	1	(3) Calcereous habitats. Leaves very leafy. Last willow in fruit in cut regime.
<i>S. viminalis</i> Coster/Basket willow	FACW-	SE	3:4	Densely long silky	3-9, hairy on lower half or at base	+	no	yes	N	(1) Leaves dense white beneath. Leaf margins revolute. Branches flexible.

Dwayne L. Sabine  
Fredericton

**Editor's note:**  
Dwayne is passing on his duties as Nature News compiler to Denis Doucet. We thank Dwayne for all his work in compiling these observations in the past years.

## Nature News: Invertebrates

### 2008 Season: January 1 to December 31

**L**EPIDOPTERA (Butterflies and Moths) As is the case most years, the first lepidoptera reports received in 2008 were of INFANT MOTHS, aka FIRST BORN GEOMETER (intruse, *Archaearis infans*). This orange and black, day-flying moth was seen at Saint John on April 6 (Ngaire Nelson), Fredericton on April 8 (Tony Thomas), and at Charter Settlement on April 9 (Reggie Webster). MOURNING CLOAKS (*morio; Nymphalis antipoa*) showed up at Lower Jemseg on April 9 (Don Gibson) and at Hammond River on April 11 (Jim Wilson). Later arrivals included a CABBAGE WHITE (piéride du chou; *Pieris rapae*) at Fredericton on April 19 (Ron Wilson), and a MILBERT'S TORTOISESHELL (petite vanesse; *Nymphalis milberti*) at Charter Settlement on April 20 (Reggie Webster). The first SPRING AZURES (azur printanier; *Celastrina ladon lucia*) were reported on April 28 at Fredericton (Tony Thomas), and on May 6 from New Maryland (Gilles Belliveau). Jim Wilson noted a BLACK SWALLOWTAIL (papillon du céleri; *Papilio polyxene asterius*) near Gagetown on May 7.

Elfins, among our most inconspicuous spring butterflies and seldom reported, were noted from several areas this year. Jim Edsall found a HOARY ELFIN (lutin grisâtre; *Callophrys polia*) at New Scotland on May 3, and the much less common HENRY'S ELFIN (lutin des bluets; *Incisalia henrici*) there on May 30. Jim notes that he found five species of Elfin on the latter day: the other four being Hoary Elfin, BOG ELFIN (lutin des tourbières; *Incisalia lanoraieensis*),

EASTERN PINE ELFIN (lutin des pins; *Callophrys niphon clarki*), and BROWN ELFIN (lutin brun; *Callophrys augustinus*). Tony Thomas found Brown Elfins at Acadia Forest Research Station on May 13 and 26, and a Hoary Elfin at the same site on May 14. Stu Tingley also encountered a few elfins in the Minto area this spring: a Henry's Elfin on May 30, and Eastern Pine and Bog Elfins on June 6.

New Brunswick appears to have had another productive year for MONARCHS (monarque; *Danaus plexippus*) in 2008. The earliest reports were from St. George on May 27 and Machias Seal Island on May 29 (Ralph Eldridge), and from Grand Manan on June 3 (Laurie Murison). A female Monarch was observed ovipositing on milkweed in late June in Douglas (Mary Sabine), and by July there were adults and larvae noted from scattered locations across southern NB. By September they were noted primarily from the Bay of Fundy area, especially Point Lepreau (with hundreds on Sep 10) (Jim Wilson) and on Machias Seal Island (Ralph Eldridge). The latest report I'm aware of was an inland record: Bev Schneider observed one at Mactaquac on Oct 12.

Jim Edsall noted a number of HARVESTERS (moissonner; *Feniseca tarquinius*), our only carnivorous butterfly, laying eggs on Woolly Alder Aphids at Halls Creek on July 25. After the eggs of this species hatch, the larvae feed on the aphids.

The MILKWEED TIGER MOTH (aka Milkweed Tussock Moth; *Euchaetes*

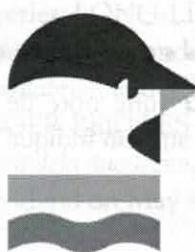
eagle), first reported from the province only in 2004, appears to be more widely distributed than once thought. The distinctive larvae have since turned up in scattered areas in southern NB, with 2008 records from Douglas on August 11 (Dwayne Sabine), and from the Nashwaak River on the same date (Bill Mountan). Jim Edsall found a HICKORY TIGER MOTH (aka Hickory Tussock Moth; *Lophocampa caryae*) larva in Bell forest near Woodstock on September 15. This is only the third known record for this species in the province, with the first two records as recently as 2005 and 2006.

Finally, the latest butterfly report of the year came from Scott Makepeace, who noted many CLOUDED SULPHURS (colia du trèfle; *Colias philodice*) at Central Hampstead on Nov 6 and 7.

ODONATA (Damselflies and Dragonflies)

The first odonate records of the year came on May 15, when HUDSONIAN WHITEFACES (leucorrhine hudsonienne; *Leucorrhinia hudsonica*) were found in flight at Tower Lake near Fredericton (Tony Thomas) and at St. George, where FOUR-SPOTTED SKIMMERS (quadrimaculée; *Libellula quadrimaculata*) were also active (Merv Cormier).

The EBONY BOGHAUNTER (cordulie bistrée; *Williamsonia fletcheri*), once thought to be a rare denizen of sphagnum bogs, has turned up with increasing frequency in recent years, and in a wider variety of habitats. There were three additional records in 2008: near a sphagnum-lined ditch in a suburban back yard in Douglas on May 25 (Dwayne Sabine), at a sphagnum-lined ditch near Minto



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on May 27 (Stu Tingley), and at Ammon Road near Moncton on July 8 (Jim Edsall).

A HARLEQUIN DARNER (aeschna pygmée; *Gomphaeschna furcillata*) was observed at Cranberry Lake Bog in Charlotte Co. on June 26 (Jim Edsall), furnishing one of only a very few provincial records for this elusive species.

Stu Tingley encountered one of the province's rarest dragonflies, the LILY-PAD CLUBTAIL (gomphe fourchu; *Arigomphus furcifer*), near Minto on July 1. This species is known from only three other sites, all in the lower Saint John River valley. Jim Edsall also found this species this year at Babbitt's Meadow, one of the previously-known sites, on July 2. While there, he also found another lower Saint John River valley species, the COBRA CLUBTAIL (gomphe-cobra; *Gomphus vastus*).

Jim Edsall found three of New Brunswick's rarest damselflies, LITTLE BLUET (agrion mineur; *Enallagma minusculum*), VESPER BLUET (agrion vebral; *Enallagma vesperum*), and FRAGILE FORKTAIL (agrion pose; *Ischnura posita*) at First Eel Lake on July 14. Jim commented that he had now seen all of the provinces damselflies with the addition of those species – an impressive feat given the rarity and cryptic nature of some of our damselflies. Two weeks later, on July 27, Jim found two of our rarest dragonflies, the SEDGE DARNER (aeschna des joncs; *Aeshna juncea*) and MUSKEG EMERALD (cordulie septentrionale; *Somatochlora septentrionalis*) at Pratt's Camp Road Bog. Both of these species are boreal, and barely extend their distributions southward into the northern half of the province.

The last dragonfly report of the year was of two MEADOWHAWKS (sympétrum)



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*Sympetrum sp.*) observed at The Mistake on November 11 (Scott Makepeace).

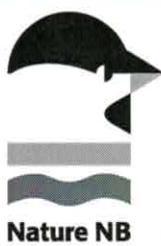
#### MISCELLANEOUS SPECIES

Scott Makepeace found about two dozen WHIRLIGIG BEETLES (family Gyrinidae) active on a brook in Central Hampstead during a warm spell on January 12. These beetles overwinter as adults at the bottom of streams or along the edges, and can become active if the temperatures become sufficiently warm in winter. More typical of the dead of winter, SNOW FLEAS (collembole des neiges, puce de neige; *Hypogastrura nivicola*) were active and abundant at Douglas on March 6-8 (Dwayne Sabine).

At Charter Settlement, SIX-SPOTTED TIGER BEETLES (cicindèle à six points; *Cicindela sexguttata*) were active by April 21, despite the still significant snow cover (Reggie Webster). Other tiger beetle reports this year came from Denis Doucet, who found Six-spotted Tiger Beetles, LONG-LIP TIGER BEETLES (cicindèle à grande lèvre; *Cicindela longilabris*), and TWELVE-SPOTTED TIGER BEETLES (cicindèle à 12 points; *Cicindela duodecimguttata*) near New Scotland on May 4.

Tony Thomas notes that he saw his first BEE FLY, *Bombylius major*, on April 26 in Fredericton. These relatively large, colourful flies have had increasing attention from naturalists in recent years. Anyone interested in them should check the "The Bee Flies (Diptera: Bombyliidae) of Ontario, with a Key to the Species of Eastern Canada", published in 2008 by Kits, Marshall, and Evenhuis. This illustrated key is freely available online, and is a volume of the excellent Canadian Journal Of Arthropod Identification series. Tony Thomas' guide to the Deer Flies of eastern Canada will soon be released as part of this series, and will be a great resource for those interested in this diverse (if sometimes annoying) group of insects. Volumes of the Canadian Journal Of Arthropod Identification series can be downloaded from: <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/bsc/ejournal/ejournal.html>

Six-spotted Tiger Beetle  
Photo by D. Sabine



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## Nature NB Kayaking Adventure Fund-raiser

Through the generous support of Baymount Outdoor Adventures, Nature NB is proud to offer an exciting kayaking adventure at Hopewell Rocks. Date: June 27th 4:30pm-6:30pm; Price: \$55/adult, \$45/youth (12-16)

To register please contact Nature NB ([nbfn@nb.aibn.com](mailto:nbfn@nb.aibn.com)) or call 506-459-4209 (Space is limited! So register early)

All the proceeds from this event will be generously donated by Baymount Outdoor Adventures to Nature NB and will go towards supporting our various educational and conservation programs.

For more information on Baymount: [www.baymountadventures.com](http://www.baymountadventures.com)

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Grâce au support généreux de « Baymount Outdoor Adventures », Nature NB est fière de vous proposer une sortie en kayak au Rochers Hopewell. Date : Juin 27 4:30pm-6:30pm

Coût : 55\$/adulte, 45\$/jeune (12-16 ans)

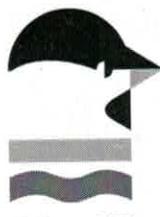
Pour s'inscrire, SVP contacter Nature NB ([nbfn@nb.aibn.com](mailto:nbfn@nb.aibn.com)) ou téléphoner 506-459-4209. (Le nombre de places est limité alors inscrivez-vous vite!)

Tout les profits seront généreusement offert par « Baymount Outdoor Adventures » à Nature NB pour appuyer nos programmes d'éducation et de conservation.

Pour plus d'information sur Baymount : [www.baymountadventures.com](http://www.baymountadventures.com)



Photo by S. McDougall



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